

Mister Early's Gas Book

7-27-58-J

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Several months ago when I was talking with George A. Scott, who is 96 years young, he spoke of a little book that he remembered seeing, which was, in his opinion, one of the valuable links in Terre Haute's early history. It was a small, leather-bound book, containing the pen and ink diagrams of the gas piping used in the residences, stores, churches, hotels, saloons, lodge halls and other business houses in Terre Haute.

The drawings were made by George M. Early, who carried the little book around in his pocket. His daughter, Sue Early, later Mrs. Charles Trout, kept the little book, and for some time it was in the office of her husband, where Mr. Scott had seen it many times. Still later, it was included in a number of books given to the Misses Marie and Josephine Lints, nieces of Mrs. Trout, and they were kind enough to sell it to me. In just this way, we run across precious little bits of our city's history, and from them we can reconstruct a picture of what our town must have looked like way back when. This book takes us back two years before the first city directory was printed in 1858.

Less than half the book was used. The drawings start on May 29, 1856, and continue through 84 pages to August 18, 1857, when the



Dorothy J. Clark "Early Family Genealogy" that George Marlyn Early was born October 5, 1829, and married Emily Wilkins, eldest daughter of Vigo county's clerk, Andrew Wilkins, on August 5, 1855. They had three children: Harry Wilkins Early, George Reynolds Early (nicknamed "Ren") and Susan Early, previously mentioned.

Mr. Scott told me that "Ren" was a stagehand at the old Naylor Opera House, and an accomplished baton twirler. He was called on to perform at all entertainments, and was the drum major for the Ringgold Band under Jake Breinig's direction. His high-stepping strut, his flashing baton, thrown whirling high into the air and caught without losing a beat as it came down, were thrilling scenes never to be forgotten whenever the band marched down Main street.

Early Property.

The first few pages of George Early's book show his uncle's property, known as "Early's Block," and built by Jacob D. Early on the northeast corner of Second and Wabash. No. 1 Early's Block was Jacob D. Early's Store; No. 2 was the Potwin & Bush Store; John Markle's Store occupied No. 3; The New York Store was at No. 4; No. 5 was Scudder's Saloon; and No. 6 was occupied by Patrick Johnson, Tailor.

Mr. Scott was able to explain "Early's Row" and why it was oftentimes confused with "Early Block." Samuel S. Early built a row of brick apartment houses at the southwest corner of Third and Chestnut streets. There were eight units with three rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. The gas-lighting diagram for pipe required was multiplied by eight, giving the total amount needed of 688 feet.

Usually the gas pipe lengths were figured in feet and inches from the meter to each gas heater and to each gas light. All dimensions of pipe were used from one-quarter inch, three-eighths, one-

half, three-quarters and one inch.

First Gas Meters.

The first gas meters in residences were placed in little "cubby-holes" in the front halls. Before meters were used, the first gas company here made a monthly charge based on the size of the tip used on the clay burner. When some unscrupulous citizens learned how to change these rented tips and replace them with larger ones, the tamper-proof gas meters came into existence.

In some cases, the cost estimate was included with the sketch. For example, "Odd Fellows Hall—September 5th . . . Estimate Job \$42.00 . . . Main 28 Feet . . . Altogether 212 Feet."

Some of the names listed in this book are: August Eiser Confectionery.

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tionery; Mrs. Jarie E. Ruggles' Confectionery; Stewart's Hotel (northwest corner of Second and Wabash); Rufus St. John's Saddlery; George Habermeyer; Louis Leveque Store; M. Doughty Saloon; S. Heidelberger, Clothier (on East Side of Public Square); James Carlisle Store; Thomas P. Murray; Jacob Kern, Jeweller; Manwaring & Harvey, and Mrs. Linton's residence.

On page 24 was an elaborate diagram for the B. B. Booth residence on Ohio street; J. P. Usher; Levi Warren's residence took two pages; James Turner; Eisman's Saloon, Charles Seamon, Owner; P. M. Donnelly, Druggist in Levi Warren's Building (this was the southwest corner of Fourth and Walnut); F. R. Whipple, also in this building; as was S. H. Potter, Hardware; George Kerkhoff & Co. was located in William Warren's building; as was the Stove Store.

Warren Building.

Mr. Scott told me some interesting facts about Wm. Warren's building located on the south side of Wabash, from Fourth street west to the alley. It seems that the stores on the north side of the 400 block on Wabash still have low ceilings, just as the Warren building had originally. Sometime after 1855 it was decided to raise the second-story four feet.

The contents of the building were removed, its tenants were ordered to vacate the premises, and the work began. Jack-screws were set about two feet apart under every wall, joist, beam, etc., and a man was assigned to each jack-screw. One must remember that labor was much cheaper in those days than it is now! When a whistle was blown, every man would give a half-turn. The engi-

neers would keep constant check to be sure that the floor was perfectly level at all times. The jack-screws were kept tight at all times, and bricks were inserted as soon as possible as the building went up. This slow, but sure process went on for nearly three weeks, one whistle-blowing after another, until the second-story was raised four feet.

Other Businesses.

Other business and residence locations found in this book are: James Hudson China Store; Mrs. Child's Millinery & Book Store; Berlau & Gronauer; "Young America" Saloon, Daniel Mininger, Proprietor; City Hall, C. Patterson, Mayor; R. S. Cox & Son, Grocers; F. F. Stark, Saloon; Stanley & Co. Hat Store (Mr. Scott reminded me that in those days, one could only buy a hat at a hat store, shoes at a shoe store, etc.); Richard Ball Tin Shop; B. Arnold, Clothier; T. W. Watkins, Saddlery; Corinthian Hall; I. Longdon's Bowling Saloon; Rice Edsall & Co. was in Ludovici's Building, southwest corner of Sixth and Wabash, (later the Root Store); Colored Masonic Hall; Methodist Episcopal Church; Crawford & Wood Book Bindery and John R. Cunningham's Drug Store.

Some of the people and places will have to remain a mystery. There is nothing else early enough to check them with. When George Early made these drawings he did not realize that one hundred years later anyone would be trying to puzzle out where these business houses were located. As Mr. Scott remarked, "When Early made this book, he knew where they all were, and that was all that was necessary!"

Clark, Dorothy

1910 Catalogue Features

"Divided" Riding Skirts

T.H. Trib-Star 3/19/67

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Over half a century ago one of the leading mail order houses was Nugents of St. Louis, Mo. Their Fashion Book for fall and winter of 1910-1911 is a revelation in how drastically styles have changed in the past 57 years. Clothing prices then were only a fraction of what they are today.

The fashions on the cover of this publication are shown in color. All of the women's styles are ankle-length. The suits and coats are tightly fitted with pleated full skirts for easier walking. The shoes are at least ankle high and called "button



DOROTHY J. CLARK

The hats were enormous "mushrooms" of satin, plush velvet or felt. They were heavily decorated with ostrich plumes, cocque feathers, ribbons, braid and bows—sometimes all used at the same time.

Huge fur muffs were hung around their necks on chains

or braided cords. Tassels hung down from everything including men's bathrobes.

Little girls dressed similar to their mothers with one exception. Their garments reached just below the knee instead of to the ankle.

They wore high-buttoned shoes, big hats and dark-ribbed long stockings. The younger the little girl the lower her waistline. Rows of pleats and enormous hair "button boots." bows completed the picture.

Little boys wore knickerbockers, ribbed hose, high-button shoes, and caps and coats like their fathers.

The day of the horse had not been taken over entirely by the new automobile or horseless carriage. Nugents could still supply tailor-made riding garments for the equestrienne.

According to Nugents, "Riding astride for women is an innovation that appeals to all

lovers of horseback riding today. There is no doubt it is the correct position for security and confidence and is being adopted by all women who wish to ride with ease and grace, which is brought about only through riding in the same manner as the man astride of the mount."

Skirts for Riding

"Our new divided skirts are constructed with an adjustable front panel which buttons back, forming the bifurcated effect for riding astride. It also forms a perfect and stylish walking skirt when dismounting by fastening the panel flap across the front forming a perfect gore."

These daring outfits were made of strong, durable tan khaki cloth. The horsey set could choose from several styles of large riding hats as well as the traditional black derby. All the styles cost less than three dollars.

The materials of the women's dresses of 1910 were very different from the man-made synthetic fibers of today. They used all wool panama, all wool serge, rich chiffon tafeta, chiffon voile, satin mes-saline and much silk.

Nugents catered to the customers who might be lucky enough to own or ride in the new automobile. They offered auto bonnet described as follows: "There is no word but chic for this pretty little motor bonnet, made of rich silk velvet in various colors; the trimming and ties of this adorable little creation consists of mousselin with folded straps of velvet." Nugents also offered a knitted "auto fascinator" in white or the "new chinchilla gray."

Due to the lack of central heating in most homes there was a great demand for sweaters, knitted undershirts, silk and wool shawls, heavy bathrobes, dressing sacques, etc. Cotton, fleeced-lined and wool union suits were worn by the entire family.

The women wore petticoats (usually more than one), cor-set covers, chemises, muslin and flannel night gowns, drawers, combinations and princess slips.

The corsets were works of art to be put on in the morning and worn until retiring for the night. The torture of the Iron Maiden of centuries ago was nothing compared to the constriction of the 1910

Wear "Falsies"

Small children wore supporter belts, a fiendish, complicated contraption designed to hold up the long ribbed stockings. Mothers firmly believed that weight should be supported from the shoulders,

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not from the waist. Even as today, the not-so-generously endowed young ladies wore "falsies" but these were called "bust forms" in 1910.

Probably the greatest change in clothing has occurred in the infant's layette. Fifty years ago the expectant mother could buy a 28-piece complete outfit for \$12. It included, one fancy yoke dress with embroidery trimmed skirt that hung to the floor when the infant was placed in a high chair, one embroidery trimmed skirt, one hemstitched yoke dress, one bishop slip, one fine Nainsook tucked skirt, one embroidered flannel skirt, one plain hemmed flannel skirt, two Merino vests, two pair of hand-made bootees, one cashmere sacque, two hemstitched slips, six Birds-eye cotton diapers, one cream silk cap, two fine cashmere pinning bands, two flannel barrow coats and two infant's gowns.

We think waterproof diaper covers and disposable diapers are modern items, but they were advertised in this 1910 publication. The paper diapers cost about one cent each. Since the babies and toddlers wore so many garments reaching to the ankle and knitted drawers and leggings, the mothers must have appreciated the waterproof items.

In addition to clothing, Nugents offered page after page of fancy dresser sets, silver powder boxes, whisk broom holders, pipe racks, fancy pillow tops with mottoes such as "Keep Smiling," "Just Daisies" and "Lead Kindly Light."

Wigs Popular

One could order all types of hair goods, wigs, switches and pompadours, and the jeweled hair ornaments and combs to fasten it on with. Then there were the murderous hat pins necessary to hold on the huge hats. There were fancy collar and cuff boxes, feather dusters and even maid's caps and bows and tiny white aprons.

The curtains of 1910 were of Nottingham cable net and Brussels weave with Cluny Irish Point lace. The portiers were of tapestry and rope. The book even contains several pages of cut glass items which show the popular glass patterns of that year.

NOTE: The Historical Museum is particularly interested in acquiring old catalogues of this type. Anyone having unwanted items of this nature please contact the writer.

Early Fashion

Customs, Way of Life Are Found in Old Record Book

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

I'm always delighted when someone brings me an old book, a diary, a box of letters, a scrapbook of clippings, old newspapers—in fact, anything that tells how people lived, what they wore, what they ate, how they survived the wars, and what they thought of the world around them. I'm just interested in people, I guess.

Their father was the son of Grayson All and Mary Cox. Their mother was one of the fifteen children of Thomas

P. Liston (1819-1877) and his fourth wife, Hannah C. Lovelace. This Liston line continues back three more generations through William Liston (1789-1864), Edmund Liston, to Joseph Liston, the Revolutionary soldier, and the early pioneer credited with plowing the first furrow here in Vigo County.

The great-grandfather, David Cox, a pioneer, school



DOROTHY J. CLARK

tries in the book had been written in ink made from berry juice.

The oldest entry is a copy of a 1797 deed written by David Cox for some land in North Carolina sold to Richard Cox for forty pounds sterling. This tract of land was located in Union District, Mecklenburg County "on the lower fish dam creek."

Conditions of Agreement

On a tattered scrap of paper found in the book one can still make out the "conditions of agreement in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and nine between David Cox, Teacher of the one Part, and we his employers of the other Part." According to this brief

teacher, had raised the flax, spun the linen thread, and had woven the cloth on the home loom which was used to make new book covers when the original leather had worn out. Some of the earliest contract, David Cox agreed to teach an English school, and his employers agreed to "find, build, or cause to be built a comfortable school house..."

Another scrap of paper recorded the fact that "Grayson All, the Husben of Mary All, were the father and mother of five children: Frances Cox All, Ruth All, David All, Rueben All and John D. All. At the time this was written there were just these five, but the family continued to grow.

Another early entry lists the family of James and Martha Townsend. Their four children were born in 1784, 1787, 1788 and 1791.

The family of John and Sarah Cox were recorded as follows: their first born 1801, died in 1803 when Martha Cox was born. Hannah was born in 1805, James in 1807, Susanah in 1810. Selah in 1813 and Ann in 1815.

Found in the old Day Book were some entries pertaining to the work of a blacksmith. As early as 1818, the year Vigo County was established, it was recorded that Samuel Chambers paid for sharpening a plow, as did James Chambers.

In May and June of 1820, Minor Jones was charged for "laying (plough) share, scythe irons and 12½ cents for sharpening a shovel plow." William McGlone paid 37½ cents for "sharpening share and making wheel irons." William Drake had his scythe mended. Hamilton Reed paid for "sharpening irons, hooping a kettle and sharpening a plow." He traded a half bushel of salt for mending a bell and shoeing a mare.

Prairieton Blacksmith

Hugh Reed had a coulter (pronounced "cutter" by most old farmers) mended. Athel Ferguson had a gig made, these were used for fishing in the river and bayou and are illegal to use now. John Chesnut needed "work on his wagon."

Robert W. Spiers needed his irons sharpened and a clevis mended. Mr. Church-evill paid 37½ cents to get

his plough share sharpened. Moses Hoggatt needed wagon nails and iron bands.

Anyone familiar with names of early settlers in this area would already have guessed that this blacksmith must have been located in the Prairieton area.

Further proof was provided with the listing of purchases made in 1838 by Mary Cox from Patrick Curry. She bought 1½ yards flannel for 47 cents; 1 yard domestic for 12 cents; 3 yards silk for 18 cents; 3½ sheets batting, 43 cents; 1¼ pound coffee for 25

cents; and 1½ pounds rice for 12 cents." Here total purchases amounted to little over a dollar and a half.

One of the most interesting writings in David Cox's old Lesson Day Book was this measurement table. "Three barley corns equal one inch. Twelve inches one foot. Three feet one yard. Five and one-half yards one rod or pole. Forty rods or poles one furlong. Eight furlongs one mile. Three miles one league. Twenty leagues one degree. 360 degrees on circumference of the earth and sea."

This all goes to demonstrate what I stated above—

old books and papers furnish much interesting information from local history to how many barley corns to make one inch!

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CLARK, DOROTHY

TERRE HAUTE, STAR 12-22-1968

McGuffey Readers Remain Cherished in Many Homes

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

There have been several books written on the subject of the McGuffey Readers. The magazine and newspaper articles on the subject are too numerous to mention. All writers agree that the McGuffey Readers make the old-fashioned Americans and their world come to life and show present-day readers how it was in the "good old days."

The McGuffeys (or MacGuffies) probably belonged originally to the great clan of the fighting MacFies of northwest Scotland. By the 18th century they had become southern Lowland farmers and artisans and ardent Covenanters. Those who could scrape up the price of the passage migrated with their families to Ireland, Canada, or the colonies.

Among the many Scottish emigrants were Wm. "Billy" McGuffey and his wife Ann McKittrick.

Pious, educated Billy McGuffey wrote a fine hand and read every book he could find. When he was 32 and his wife 27 in the spring of 1774 they decided to sail for America with their three children—Alex-



Dorothy Clark

ander aged 7, Catherine aged 6, and Elizabeth aged 4. The sailing ship took three long months to reach Philadelphia.

Billy bought a farm in York county, southeast Pennsylvania, and in the spring of 1775 planted his crops. Then came the Revolutionary War and Billy enlisted. His wife managed the farm and the

family until his return.

When his son Alexander, or "Sandy," was 12 years old, the Northwest Territory was thrown open to settlers, and Billy sold his farm and brought land on the Western frontier between Fort Pitt and Wheeling, and here they moved in 1789. Young Elizabeth died on the difficult journey.

Loving the outdoor life, Sandy McGuffey served as an Indian spy and scout for five summers, roaming the frontier. Deciding at last to settle down he married in 1797 Anna Holmes, and in three years there were three children: Jane, Wm. Holmes and Henry Holmes.

Anna (Holmes) McGuffey decided all her children would get an education, but particularly William Holmes McGuffey she recognized as a precocious child. William ate

up knowledge and had a prodigious memory.

A Roving Teacher

The little family moved from Pennsylvania to Scioto County, Ohio, where five more children were born to them. Their mother undertook their education, and gave them their first lessons in reading and ciphering.

When William was 16 his teacher gave him a certificate and advised him to become a roving teacher. He taught wherever he was needed in Ohio, western Pennsylvania and Kentucky until he entered Greensburg Academy to study for the ministry.

In 1830, Wm. H. McGuffey began an educational project that was to influence American life profoundly for three quarters of a century. By 1833 his "First Reader" was ready for printing, but it was three years later that he was approached by the Cincinnati publisher who was to make a fortune out of the McGuffey Readers.

A great market for school books lay open in the west and south to the publisher that could manipulate it. The new country needed a new series of readers suited to the demands of western children.

The series called for a

primer, a speller, and four readers. McGuffey's idea was to make the readers interesting and suited to all tastes and ages, because often the parents would read and study with their children. The historic little books appeared in 1837, attractively bound with green side covers and pictures on every page. The illustrated alphabet in the "First Reader" began with "A" for "AXE." The backwoods child had seen his father wield an axe ever since he could remember anything. Animals were featured in 63 lessons in the "First Reader" and much poetry included.

The Cincinnati firm, Truman & Smith, changed in 1841, and Winthrop B. Smith became the sole owner. Edition followed edition, revised and brought up to date from time to time, and total sales was estimated at 122 million copies.

The McGuffey Readers were widely used down to 1900, and even later in some localities. William Holmes McGuffey died in 1873 at the age of 73, unaware of the living shrine such as only legend sets up, in the hearts of millions of old school boys and girls.

The McGuffey Readers had more influence on 19th century American culture than any other book except the Bible. To William belongs the initiative and the first four readers. The "Fifth" and "Sixth," the two most often quoted, most dearly beloved,

are his younger brother Alexander's effort. Both men lived and died quite unconscious of their real contribution to posterity.

First editions of the McGuffey Readers are collector's items now and bring a good price depending on their condition. Many families have handed them down from generation to generation until they have become cherished family heirlooms.

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Journal Tells Scotsman's Views of Hoosier State

TRIB-STAR 6-15-69

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

I am indebted to Ruth France Norrick of Clinton, for the background material for today's column. We both found Chamber's Journal of Edinburgh, Scotland, written in January, 1834, fascinating reading.

Somehow this article escaped reprinting in Professor Harlow Lindley's compilation, "Indiana as Seen by Early Travelers." It has in it some features of special interest that justify bringing it to the light again in abridged form.

After describing the boundaries of the state of Indiana and giving its population as 400,000, the article proceeds:

"The south front of this fine state, on the borders of the Ohio River is skirted with the usual belt of river hills, bluffs and knobs . . . The eye of the traveler in ascending the stream never tires in surveying those beautiful bluffs, especially in the spring when their declivities are crimsoned with the red bud or whitened with the brilliant blossoms of the dogwood or rendered verdant with the beautiful May apple."

Speaking of the prairies north of the Wabash the writer says: "They are large, level, fertile plains, broader than can be measured by the eye, intersected by streams whose borders are marked by belts of timber."

Every traveler has spoken with admiration of the beauty and fertility of the prairies along the course of the Wabash, particularly those in the vicinity of Fort Harrison; indeed, competent judges prefer the prairies on this part of the river to those in Illinois and the upper Mississippi.

"Perhaps no part of the western world can show greater extents of rich land in one body than Indiana . . . Such is the exuberant richness of some of the prairies and bottoms that they can not produce crops of wheat until reduced or impoverished to a sufficient extent by cropping in other products . . . For all the objects of farming, emigrants could not desire a better country than may be found in Indiana."



Dorothy Clark

Speaking of streams that "copiously water" the state, it is said: "Many of the rivers of the state are navigable by boats and steam vessels," and "altogether the state is said to possess an inland navigation of not less than 5,000 miles."

In a quotation from a Mr. Stuart, who made a visit to Princeton, "about ten miles from the Wabash, where there are many nice looking plantations," is given an intimate glimpse of a well-to-do English immigrant who had followed the lure of the west. Says the account:

"I paid a visit to Mr. Phillips, who has a very fine plantation about a mile from the town. His farm is of excellent soil, beautifully situated, commanding a delightful view. He

told me that, literally, his hogs were fed with peaches and apples. In short, he is living as the proprietor of

a place so comfortable in appearance in all respects, and so much improved in the British sense of the term that if it were in Scotland it would be envied by many; but he is obviously not altogether satisfied with his situation on some accounts, which I may explain."

"First of all, he has committed an error into which British immigrants who come out here with their pockets full of money very generally fall,

namely, that of laying out a large sum of money in improving and beautifying the land in a British style. Such improvements yield no adequate return in this country, even upon a sale. The price of labor is high; the value of practice is low. I am not, therefore, at all surprised that Mr. Phillips feels chagrined on account of his having laid out his money unprofitably; but he is wealthy, and this

circumstance is obviously not that which annoys him most. His complaint is that he has not a gentleman in his neighborhood to associate with . . . He does not feel at home with the people and he dislikes their mode of life, which is totally different from that to which he has become attached. He misses his frequent chat with his neighbors and the companions of the first part of his life, and he cares little about the enjoyments of which he is possessed in this country, unless he can share them with his friends."

"This is all very natural; but had Mr. Phillips come to this country at the age of 30 or 40, with manners not entirely formed, with such a sum as 1700 or 1800 pounds . . . he not only could have maintained his family well and respectably and given his children excellent education, but have at once come into possession of every political privilege; in fact have become a country gentleman."

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"It is for persons of this description and for merchants and laborers that the United States holds out inducements not to be found elsewhere; but the rich, the luxurious, the man of letters or of refined habits should never in existing circumstances, think of crossing the Atlantic with a view to bettering himself by a permanent residence in the United States."

Finally says the writer: "Indiana corn is the staple food for horses and cattle through the winter and for fattening swine, and is the sole article for bread in thousands of families, many preferring it to the finest wheat. A poor man with a cabin and cornfield may thus easily support a family in wholesome provisions, especially if he has two or three cows and some hogs, which cost little or nothing for keeping and furnish a relishing dish of bacon to the ordinary fare of the back-

"It was noted the want of well-educated medical men in the western part of America. This I had observed, and I am convinced there are very many eligible openings. They should get a small plantation in one of the increasing towns, and, if capable of enduring fatigue, there is no doubt of their success."

And so it was in Indiana some 135 years ago!

'my Booklet' Provides Finger-Tip Information

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Knowing my interest in anything and everything readable, one of my readers sent me a tiny booklet entitled: "Who's Who and What's What."

Described as "finger-tip information that everyone should know," this booklet is filled with brief biographical sketches of famous Americans. The most interesting sections and the bits of unusual information about every subject imaginable.

For example, did you know that "when cotton was prepared for the loom by hand it required one man an entire day to clean one pound. Eli Whitney, who was born in Massachusetts, taught school in Georgia, where he became interested in cotton, and after much experimenting he invented the cotton gin in 1793. One cotton gin will do the labor of five thousand men."

"Whoever finds a lost article has a clear title to same against everyone else except the owner, which means that the proprietor of the place where found has no claim on same."

"Pilgrim's Progress" has been translated into more different languages than any other book, with the exception of the Bible."

"Long before the discovery of glassware, bottles were made of leather." The manufacture of soap began in London in 1524. Iron melts at 2,741 degrees, steel at 2,480, gold at 1,940, lead at 621 and tin at 550."

"It is said that there are more than three thousand different languages."

"A French mob destroyed the first sewing machine, which was made by Barthlemy Thimmonnier in 1830 and was used in making uniforms for the army."

But he persevered and obtained a patent in the United States in 1850, and today practically every American home finds the sewing machine indispensable.

"A salt mine at Williczka, Galicia, has been in constant operation for 600 years. Its area is 200 by 500 miles and it contains a complete village with streets and avenues, many of its inhabitants never coming to the surface for months. In Michigan and New York salt is obtained from wells, while a large part of the world's supply is obtained by evaporating sea water."

"Chinaware was first made at Dresden, Saxony, in 1706."



Dorothy Clark

"Wood when kept thoroughly dry has been known to last more than 1,100 years."

"Sleeping cars were first used in 1858. They were invented by George Pullman."

"Cyrus H. McCormack, who was born in Virginia in 1804, invented the harvester, which cuts, reaps, threshes and sacks grain at one operation."

"The first locomotive engine was built in 1813 by Wm. Hedley, near New Castle, England."

"The White House, the home of the Presidents, is painted regularly every ten years."

Helps Feed World

"The cast-iron plow, which has done more than any other

Wood, of New York, who spent his entire fortune in establishing his patent rights against infringers."

I learned that this little booklet must have been printed in 1919, because the biography of Tyrus R. Cobb acknowledged as the greatest player in the history of the game, was 33 years old. He captured all records for batting, base-stealing and run-getting, and is the only ball

player who ever held the batting championship for over ten years. His salary was said to be \$17,000 a season.

Jack Dempsey, world's heavyweight champion, was born at Nanassa, Colorado, on June 23, 1895, and when only 24 years of age won the championship by putting Jess Willard to sleep in three rounds, although his opponent out-

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Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

weighed him by forty pounds.

Other bits of interesting but useless information included the following: Originated in 1884 as a parlor game, table tennis is still going strong and increasing in popularity each year. Now popular played outdoors also, table tennis (or as my generation called it, ping pong) was once enjoyed by wasp-waisted young ladies

with bouffant hairdos and dashing young men in high collars, white flannel trousers and wavy pompadour hair styles.

Times don't seem to change much, do they?

In the days of early automobling, there was a very simple system to follow in traffic. If it comes from the right pretend you're going to hit it. If it comes from the left disregard it. If it's in front pass it, and if it's behind — the heck with it. There was only one system simpler, the old army slogan of salute-if-it-moves and whitewash-it-if-it-doesn't.

Good advice to follow was given in this little poem: Never, never let your gun pointed

be at anyone. That it may unloaded be, matters not a scrap to me.

And no booklet of the 1919

era would have been complete without the following Five B's — Baldness, Bifocals, Baywindow, Bridgework and Bunions.

Writer Finds Wealth Of Trivia in Books

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

TS DEC 3 1972

From the time I first learned to read it has always been my habit to read anything and everything that came into my hands. My motto has always been: "I'll read anything once." If I liked what I read, I might put it on the bookshelf and later read it again.

All this leads to the fact that I have read some mighty strange things in my time. For example — "How to Save Your Ice Bill — Get a quantity of empty barrels or boxes during the coldest time in winter, and put a few inches of water in each. The evening when the cold is most intense is the best time to do this. After the water is frozen solid, fill up again, repeat the process until the barrels are full of solid ice, then roll them into your cellar, cover them with plenty of sawdust or straw, and your ice crop is safely harvested."

This is the type of information you find in an old book entitled "Everybody's Guide or Things Worth Knowing," written by R. Moore in 1884.

In addition to receipts for baking, cooking and preserving, there are receipts for Farmers, Stock-owners, Horse-shoers, Liverymen, Dyers, Bleachers, Clothiers, Hatters and Furriers.

The volume contains a medical department for Physicians, Dentists, Families, Barbers and Perfumers.

There are receipts and tables for grocers, tobacconists, confectioners, curriers, harness-makers, bookbinders, marble and ivory-workers, anglers, painters, varnishers, cabinet makers, gilders, bronzers, piano and organ makers, glass makers, architects, builders, bricklayers, plasters, kalsominers and stucco workers.

In 1884 those persons engaged in Watch-making, Diamond-cutting, Boiler making, Locomotive-building, Blacksmithing, Plumbing, Carpentering, Gunsmithing, Engraving, Printing and Navigation could benefit from reading this little book.

Pertinent data concerning Bee Hives, making bells, smelting and how to figure the necessary lumber to build a house were included. The fine print and yellowing paper make it difficult to read (or understand).

A particularly interesting receipt for Roast Pork required a leg, shoulder, loin or chine of pork. "Wash it clean, cut the skin in squares, make a stuffing of grated bread, sage, onion, pepper and salt, moistened with the yolk of an egg. Put this under the skin of the knuckle, and sprinkle a little powdered sage into the rind where it is cut; rub the whole surface of the skin with a feather dipped in sweet oil. Eight pounds will require about three hours to roast it."



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Several pages are devoted to horses, how to train them, how to shoe them properly, and how to cure such various ailments as "staggers, heaves, colic, the founder, spavin, bots and sweetiey."

On the subject of human longevity, the author (in all his wisdom?) computed that nearly two years sickness is experienced by every person before he is 70 years old, and therefore that ten days per year is the average sickness of human life. "Till forty it is but half, and after fifty it rapidly increases. The mixed and fanciful diet of man is

Continued On Page 10, Col. 1.

considered the cause of numerous diseases from which animals are exempt. Children died in large proportions . . . A generation from father to son is about thirty years; of men in general, five-sixths die before 70, and fifteen-sixteenths, before 80. After 80, it is rather endurance than enjoyment."

According to the author, "the nerves are blunted, the senses fail, the muscles are rigid, the softer tubes become hard, the memory fails, the brain ossifies, the affections are buried, and hope ceases, the 16th die at 80; except a 133rd, at 90. A remainder die from inability to live, at or before 100."

"About the age of 36 the lean man usually becomes fatter, and the fat man leaner. Again, between the years 43 and 50, his appetite fails, his complexion fades, and his tongue is apt to be furred upon the least exertion of body or mind. At this period his muscles become flabby, his joints weak, his spirits droop, and his sleep is imperfect and unrefreshing."

"After suffering under these complaints a year or perhaps two, he starts afresh with renewed vigor, and goes on to 61 or 62, when a similar change takes place, but with aggravated symptoms. When these grand periods have been successively passed, the gravity of incumbent years is more strongly marked, and he begins to boast of his age."

In order to attain this great age the reader was advised to eat only brown bread made from unbolted wheat flour and fruit. Meat was to be avoided like poison as well as all highly spiced foods.

I felt selfish, keeping such a vast storehouse of valuable knowledge on my library shelf, so I contributed it to the Historical Museum's library collection. It's available for reference to anyone who needs a "receipt" for most anything!

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Century Old Bulletin Describes Mail Service

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Ts JAN 7 1973

An interesting addition to the files of the Vigo County Historical Society is a century-old copy of the Terre Haute Post Office Bulletin dated Jan. 1, 1873, when Linus A. Burett was postmaster. The four-page bulletin was printed by the Express Job Printing Co. A picture of the post office, located on the east side of 6th St. between Main and Ohio, is on the front cover. This building served as post office from 1871 until 1887, when the post office preceding the present building was erected at the southwest corner of 7th and Cherry Sts.

The postmaster suggested that the Bulletin be kept for future reference as "the column of offices having a different post office name from that of the town or village is especially valuable to businessmen to prevent errors in addressing letters." P. M. Burnett didn't even dream that the Bulletin would still be used for reference one hundred years later.

In 1873 the post office was open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., except on Sunday when it was open for one hour in the morning for the convenience of box holders. Money order and registry offices were kept open from 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m., Sundays excepted.

The time of opening and closing mails for all train connections was outlined in the Bulletin for both daily and semi-weekly mail. Patrons were warned that only authorized employees were allowed in the mail room to put late mail in a pouch. Evidently there had been some trouble with important patrons who thought they had special privileges.

The postage rate in 1873 was three cents for a letter. Drop letters or city letters could be mailed for one cent if they were not delivered by carriers.

The advantage of buying stamped envelopes was great. If a patron purchases at least 500 of these pre-stamped envelopes, the return address would be printed free of charge.

From 1869 to 1872 the money order business transacted at the Terre Haute Post Office totaled \$243,847, for those issued, and \$109,359, for those paid.

The public was cautioned to be careful when addressing letters to get the proper name of the Post Office and not the local names of towns and villages. There were many towns of the same name in Indiana but there were no two post offices of the same name in any one state. Zip Code had not been invented then!

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The following is a partial list of the towns and villages in this vicinity having a post office different from the name of the town.

In Vermillion County, Bono

Continued On Page 5, Col. 1.

(Toronto), Highland (Hillsdale), Jones (St. Bernice), Sullivan County, Curreysville (Shelburn), Fairbank's (Turman's Creek), Harpersburgh (Ascension), Hymers (Shelburn), Sproats (Paxton Station).

In Fountain County, Chambersburgh (Coal Creek), Jacksonville (Wallace), Portland (Fountain).

In Clay County, Fountain (Fountain Station), Highland (Staunton), Lodi (Pratt), Newberry (Turner), Van Buren (Staunton).

In Greene County, Jonesboro (Hobbierville). In Putnam County, Nicholsonville (Fillmore). In Warren County, Milford (Poolsville). In Montgomery County, Middletown (Waynes town). In Knox County, Neck (Deckers Station); Morgan County, Sheasville (Alaska); Hendricks County, Springtown (Amo).

In Owen County, Lancaster

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(Patrickburgh), Middletown (Arney), Santa Fe (Cuba); Vigo County, Bloomtown (Nelson), Centerville (Lewis), Grant Station (Burnett), Hartford (Pimento), Lockport (Riley), Middletown (Prairie Creek), Otter Creek (Ellsworth), and Woods Mills (Seelyville).

According to statistics, the postal department showed a deficit of nearly six million dollars for the year 1872. There were 31,863 post offices in the United States employing nearly 45,000 persons. There were 251,398 miles of mail

routes in the country.

Here in Terre Haute, the post office employees in 1873 were Linus A. Burnett, postmaster; William F. Arnold, assistant post master; James B. Naylor, money order and registry office; Harvey E. Moore, mailing clerk; Ed A. Riehle, box clerk; Augustus Arnold, delivery clerk; and S. R. Baker, stamp clerk.

The postmaster announced that new postal maps of Illinois, Iowa and Missouri were nearly completed and could be purchased from the postmaster. The postal cards

would be issued "as soon as Congress makes the necessary appropriation."

Before the year was out, Linus A. Burnett was replaced by Nicholas Filbeck as postmaster. 1873 was a depression or "panic" year which ushered in five years of hard times. The Republicans, who had taken credit for prosperity, now got the blame for the depression. The Democrats won most of the midterm elections of 1874.

Each change of political administration in federal government brought about a

THE TRIBUNE-STAR, TERRE HAUTE, IND.

complete change of postmasters across the country before the days of civil service status for postmasters.

Memories Brought Back

Community Affairs File

By Old Autograph Albums

Ts JUN 3 1973

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

We're all familiar with the small red plush autograph albums kept by our grandparents and their grandparents. The custom is dying out, although Collett Elementary School presented autograph albums to their sixth grade graduates each year.

A faded red album was presented to the Historical Museum recently which was first used in 1889. As near as I can tell the little book was the property of Richard Drake, of Prairieeton, Ind.

James C. Piety, young Drake's teacher, wrote: "True

success is found only by those who strive long, earnestly and patiently." Another teacher, G. W. Whalen, wrote: "A man who knows not and knows he knows not is willing. Teach him. A man who knows and knows he knows is wise. Cling to him."



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This is the only autograph album in which the old reliable verse did not appear:

"As sure as the vine
Grows 'round the stump
You are my darling
Sugar lump."

Those friends who felt they had artistic talents would decorate their pages with scrolls, drawings of flowers, doves, lambs, angels, etc.

Rhetta Craig wrote:
"Friend Dick—The happiest
life

That ever was led
Is always to court

But never to wed."
"Dick: When youf earthly life
is ended
May your name in gold be
written
In the autograph of God.

Elena and Hettie."

Sadie Drake wrote: "Be
kind to all you chance to meet
in fields or lane or crowded
street."

Janie Van Gilder wrote:

"Round went the album
Hither it came for me
To write in, so here is my
name."

Etta Piety wrote:

"True friends are like dia-
monds
Precious and rare
False ones like autumn
leaves
Are found everywhere."

Edith Piety wrote:
"May all your joys be as
deep as the ocean
And your sorrows as light
as the foam."

Hattie wrote:
"Friendship at present
May we in friendship
Continued on Page 7, Col. 2.

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remain
Always meeting in friendship
And parting the same."

Lorie Hunt write:
"May flowers of live
Around thee twine
And the sunshine of peace
Shed its joys o'er thine."

Other friends who write
imilar verses included Anna
Underwood, Cora Thompson,
Winnie Dickson, Rosa Kester,
Ida Yeager, Elenor Piety,
Della Hynerson, Pettie
Beauchamp, Florence E.B.,
Marcia Lee, Della Paddock,
Miss Grace Hutton, Ella
Wilson, Cora Jared, Lizzie
Underwood and Fred Myers.

Like Bibles, peole fre-
quently stashed away all sorts
of interesting items in the
autograph album. Locks of
hair, funeral flowers, a bit of
lace or ribbon, a calling card,
and sometimes a yellowed
clipping from a newspaper
which appealed to the reader.

In an autograph album and
scrapbook of 1860-1875 I found
this clipping which concerns
Terre Haute and the clannish-
ness of its people.

"Not the least among the
many peculiarities of the
beautiful little city of Terre
Haute is its spirit du
ville—not to put too fine a
point on it, the clannishness of
its people. In the matter of
cohesiveness they are strong.
However much they may
quarrel among themselves, on
all issues with the outside
world they are brethren in
unity. When their Tall Sy-
camore was an aspirant for
Senatorial honors he had not
only the Democrats but the
Republicans of Terre Haute at
his back, and if Dick
Thompson were a candidate
he would have Hanna and Ha-
vens, and Shannon to leg and
log for him. It is sufficient for
a Terre Haute man to know
that anything comes from
Terre Haute to enlist his sym-
pathies. He will risk his ul-
timate dollar on a Terre
Haute race horse which hasn't

a chance of winning, outside
of special providence, and
then cheerfully walk home on
an empty stomach, satisfied
that he had spent his money in
a righteous cause—that os
stataining city pride. Our
citizens will remember the
coolness which sprang up bet-
ween Hon. Wm. K. Edwards,
Speaker of the last House of
Representatives, and Mr.
Kennan, of the Sentinel. It all
grew out of disparaging
remarks made by Mr. Keenan
about the wonderful echo
discovered by Mr. Edwards in
the rear of the Terre Haute. It
is also known that some four
years since, Byles W. Hanna
whipped a Lafayette lawyer to
death for intimating that the
artesian water of the latter
city smelled louder and basted
nastier than that of Terre
Haute. Likewise, an zin-
dianapolis doctor was mobbed
and compelled to flee for his
life for expressing doubts as
to the efficiency of the Terre
Haute madstone in chronic
cases of hydrophobia. And Dr.
Allen Pence will fight in a mo-
ment if anyone dares to sug-
gest that a better class of
spirits attend the Boston
seances than can be raised at
a moment's notice in Terre
Haute.

Newcomers to Terre Haute
might need a few explana-
tions. While drilling for water
in the rear of the old Terre
Haute House, Chauncey Rose
struck oil and sulphur water.
The acoustics near this rig
produced a most unusual
"echo."

The highly unpleasant
fumes and odors from
artesian water can still be
sampled at the flowing foun-
tain on Dkesser Drive. Terre
Haute's madstone was so
famous that Abraham Lincoln
brought his young son here af-
ter he was bitten by a sup-
posedly rabid dog. Mrs.
Taylor's madstone was ap-
plied to many such bites. Dr.
Allen Pence, local apothecary,
believed in Siritualism and
conducted seances hoping to
contact the spirit world in his
building at the southwest cor-
ner of 2nd and Ohio, the old
feed store recently razed.

Community Affairs File

Early Days of Masonry Described in 1911 Book

Community Affairs File
Ts JUN 9 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Over sixty years ago Edward Gilbert carefully researched and wrote a book entitled: NINETY YEARS OF MASONRY, TERRE HAUTE LODGE NO. 19. It was published by Moore-Langen Printing Company in 1911.

Mr. Gilbert used old record books of the lodge (now 155 years old!), the written minutes of their transactions, and rosters of the officers and members. On the wall of the lodge room at that time hung the original charter from the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana.

Masonic Lodge No. 19, chartered on July 12, 1819, antedated everything else here except the State of Indiana (1816) and the County of Vigo (1818). The first effort at establishing a church society came seven years later, but even that failed. It was not until 1834 that the first church was organized in Terre Haute which was to continue.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana was formed at Corydon on Dec. 3, 1817. The original petition for the local lodge was signed by Peter Benton Allen, John T. Chunn, Lucius H. Scott, Touissaint Dubois, James Hall, Andrew Brooks, Zehina C. Hovey, Demas Deming, Curtis Gilbert, Samuel McQuilkin, Robert Brasher, Thomas H. Clark and Elihu Hovey. This document was lost along with the official dispensation while they were the property of the Grand Lodge.

At the July 12 meeting, Bro. Elihu Stout, of Vincennes Lodge No. 1, presided and installed the officers. Curtis Gilbert was elected secretary and the minutes were written in his beautiful copperplate script. General Peter B. Allen became the first Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 19.

One month later, by laws were adopted. At that time the order was known as "Free & Accepted Ancient York Masons." The words "Ancient York" were dropped from the name many years later. The charter was received Oct. 23, 1821.

At the meeting of Dec. 29, 1820, two visitors from Vincennes, Elihu Stout and Henry Ruble, installed the officers and inspected the ritualistic work. There was a banner at Bro. Harrison's tavern, the "Eagle & Lion" at the southeast corner of Wabash and First streets, where 24 sat for supper. In March, 1821, the lodge entertained John Tipton, then Grand Master and later U.S. Senator from Indiana.



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The first Masonic funeral here was that of Bro. Lewis Hodge on June 23, 1822. On the next day was the funeral of Bro. Andrew Brooks. Members wore crepe on their left arms for a period of thirty days. It is not known whether these men were buried on the square now bounded by Ohio and Wabash and Sixth street on the west. This had been the common burying ground for several years. However, about this time the burying ground on the river (Old Indian Orchard) came into use by the townspeople. Those were sickly times. Few were fully well, and it is said that more of them died than there were new accessions to local population. It was before any start had been made to drain the great swamp on the east side of town. July, August and September were the "fever 'n ag'er" season.

The history of Masonic Lodge No. 19 will continue next week along with a detailed description of the present Masonic Temple when it was built. As early as 1827 the local Masons started talking and planning about their own meeting place, but none of them realized it would take so many years to become a reality.

These suppers were furnished at the moderate price of 25 cents per, and "other refreshments" at corresponding rates. The menu consisted mainly of meat and drink. Wild turkey, venison and bear meat were plentiful, while vegetables were usually corn, beans and cabbage. Salads were rare, and bread was often of corn. Beer was not then made here, and seldom heard of. grapes were few and used only as fruit, all wines were imported. Whiskey was the common beverage. Bread, cheese, fried cakes and whiskey with an occasional bottle of imported brandy, are the only items mentioned in the old records.

Masonry had been actively at work in Indiana Territory many years before Lodge No. 19 was formed. Many of the officers and soldiers of Gen.

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Dorothy Clark

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Harrison's little army which marched up the Wabash Valley in the Fall of 1811, stopped here to build Fort Harrison, and on to the battlefield of Tippecanoe were known to be Masons. Major Joseph Hamilton Daviess (for whom Daviess County is named) who came as a volunteer on that expedition and lost his life while fighting beside General Harrison at Tippecanoe, was at the time the Grand Master of Kentucky. Col. John T. Chunn, for a long time commandant at Fort Harrison and a valiant army officer, was among the signers of the petition of Lodge No. 19. Major Robert Sturges, later a commandant of the fort, was named as the first Junior Warden in 19's charter.

Tradition has it that the Masons who lost their lives at the battle were buried with Masonic honors by the regularly formed army lodge in the expedition and that they continued to meet and work while the garrison remained at Fort Harrison.

The records show that Samuel B. Lee was the first man to become a Master Mason under the charter of No. 19. On Mar. 7, 1822, Francis Cunningham first appeared in the records. He had moved to Terre Haute from Vincennes and opened a tavern on the northwest corner of First and Wabash which became for several years the headquarters and meeting place of the

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Darby's Emigrant's Guide Was Published in 1818

TS JUL 21 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

The Emigrant's Guide to the Western and Southwestern States and Territories was published in 1818 in New York and written by William Darby.

Darby had been a surveyor in Louisiana for several years, assisting in adjusting the ancient land boundaries in that area and was considered an expert concerning the French and Spanish land titles. He had published a smaller book on Louisiana, and in 1818 felt that "the traveler in the valley of the Mississippi will find the Emigrant's Guide a useful manual."

According to Darby, "the daily increasing importance of the Western and Southwestern States and Territories of the United States, and the immense population which the tide of emigration is accumulating in those regions," caused him to compile the book.

When Darby's book was written, Indiana had just become a state. Illinois was still a territorial government divided into three United States court districts. Darby estimated there were 20,000 people living in the Illinois territory in 1817.

The Wabache or Wabash river was mentioned several times. It was important to the emigrant to have all water routes and hazards outlined so he could plan his travels more easily. Darby mentioned that many of the higher branches of the Illinois and Wabash are in the Indian country and, of course, but imperfectly known.



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"Mountains, there are none in the country of Illinois, or hills of any particular elevation."

Darby described the new State of Indiana as covering "an area of 36,640 square miles, equal to 23,449,600 acres. More than one-half of this surface remains yet in possession of the Indians. The southern and much more valuable part of the state is reclaimed, and is settling with emigrants from the northern and eastern states with great rapidity."

Since he was working with statistics from the year 1810, Darby admitted "there is no doubt but that the number of inhabitants have increased to near 100,000 at the present time."

In 1810, Indiana had five counties, Clark, Dearborn, Harrison, Jefferson and Knox. The chief towns were Jeffersonville, Lawrenceburg, Vincennes and Corydon.

When Darby completed his writing in 1817, the new counties of Washington, Switzerland, Jefferson, Wayne, Gibson, Posey and Warwick had been formed. The year the book was published, Vigo County would be established.

Darby named the Wabash river as "the principal stream of Indiana, from the surface of which it draws the far greater part of its waters. The head branches of the Wabash are in Indian country, of course very imperfectly explored. This river rises with the Maumee near Fort

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Wayne, and like the Illinois, flows to the west through Indiana, unto almost the west border of the state, where the river gradually curves to the southwest by south, which course it maintains to its junction with the Ohio. The entire length of the Wabash exceeds 300 miles; it is a fine stream, without falls or extraordinary rapids."

According to Darby, "it was through the channel of the Wabash that the French of Canada first discovered the Ohio, to which they gave the name of "Belle Riviere," or beautiful river, but considered the Wabash the main branch, and gave the united rivers its name. In many old maps of North America, the Ohio below the junction of the two streams is called Wabash."

He goes on to state, "It may be doubted whether any state of the United States, all things duly considered, can present more advantages than Indiana. Intersected or bounded in all directions by navigable rivers or lakes, en-

joying a temperate climate, and an immense variety of soil. Near two-thirds of its territorial surface is yet in the hands of the Indians, a temporary evil, that a short time will remedy.

"When all the extent comprised within the legal limits of this state are brought into a state of improvement, with one extremity upon the Ohio river, and the opposite upon Lake Michigan, with intersecting navigable streams, Indiana will be the real link that will unite the southern and northern parts of the U.S."

Darby believed flour was the "principal artificial production and staple. Much of the land is well calculated to produce wheat. Mill streams abound. Rye is also extensively cultivated, and used as bread grain, to feed horses. Maize is, next to wheat, the most valuable crop cultivated in Indiana . . . oats, barley and buckwheat are also reared; the former in great abundance as food for horses. Potatoes (Irish) are cultivated in plenty, as is a great variety of pulse lentils, beans and peas. Pumpkins (pumpkins), squashes, melons and cucumbers are cultivated

"For domestic consumption and exportation, are made large quantities of beef, pork, butter, lard, bacon, leather, whiskey and peach brandy. With but little exception, Natchez and New Orleans are the outlets of the surplus produce of Indiana . . . sugar, coffee, wines and foreign ardent spirits are brought from New Orleans." Darby noted that a considerable quantity of sugar is made in the country from the sap of the sugar maple tree.

He informed future emigrants that dry goods, hardware, ironmongery, paper and books were mostly imported from Pittsburg. Saddles, bridles, hats, boots and shoes were also manufactured in the new state of Indiana. Tables, chairs and bedsteads were made in all the larger towns.

West of the Alleghenies, the only book printing was done in Lexington, Ky., and Pittsburg, Pa. Only Cincinnati and Nashville had book stores and there were no libraries established except in private homes. Darby urged men, especially professional men, to bring with them all the books they might need, because there were none available in the state of Indiana or the Illinois territory.

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More Advice from Darby's 1818 Emigrant's Guide

Ts JUL 28 1974

Ts JUL 28 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

In his "Emigrant's Guide" published in 1818, William Darby devoted a chapter to advice, particularly to Europeans newly arrived in the United States rather than Americans who were moving westward across the mountains from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi Valley.

He urged newly arrived Europeans to study the United States constitution and the constitution of the state or territory in which they planned to settle.

Darby advised no emigrant ever to purchase land, or make arrangements for permanent settlement, before viewing the place. In addition to maps and other written guides, the emigrant was advised not to trust the information of persons offering land for sale.

Darby believed that most men on arriving in the United States, expected too much. He believed that the only essential advantages offered here were the security of person and property and the cheapness of the land. To succeed in a newly settled country demanded excessive labor, severe economy and exemptions from extraordinary accident.

As he wrote his advice in 1817, Darby stated "many persons of good character and intelligence reside there who have crossed the Allegheny mountains within the last 35 years — the world before them and Providence their guide, who now repose in ease with flourishing families around them. The emigrant who now traverses those



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mountains has no savage warfare to appal him. The first race of men who entered those wilds smoothed the path for their successors, often at the expense of their lives; What once demanded almost superhuman bravery, now only demands perseverance, industry, and honest sober habits "

Emigrants were advised to travel in the summer and plan to arrive at their destination early in autumn "when their grain is put in the earth. As soon as seeding is finished, preparations are then made for converting into flour or whiskey their small grain, in fattening their pork, and collecting for market the various staples, and in building boats for the transportation of their property down the river to the mart for sale. In this manner autumn and the beginning of winter is consumed

"As soon as the spring freshets open the rivers, these navigators commit themselves and the fruits of their fields to the current, and in due time float to Natchez or New Orleans; dispose of their cargoes; and purchase a horse and return home by land. Everyone is anxious to complete his voyage in time to return to his farm by harvest which two-thirds effect.

"The same routine is again pursued, and thus while some members of a family are as high as the 41 degree north latitude, tilling the ground, others are distant 11 degrees of latitude disposing of their joint property. So easily do men accommodate them

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Dorothy Clark
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selves to the operations of this wide field of action, that many who in their native country, considered 30 or 40 miles a very serious journey, will in a few years after crossing the Alleghany mountains, converse familiarly upon a voyage of 2,000 miles from home, and a journey of 1,200 in return."

Darby wrote flowingly of

opportunities for work if a man did not wish to become a farmer. He advised that "all trades are wanted, especially those necessary for the supply of the most pressing wants of new settlers, such as carpenters, masons, smiths, wheelrights, tanners, curriers, tailors, shoemakers, hatters, saddlers and cabinetmakers.

"Mere labourers, however, who possess no handicraft, are as certain of employment as any class of men. So great is the task of clearing of land, ploughing, sowing, reaping, threshing grain, and other business of husbandry, that all man can find work . . ."

Darby advised against the idle waste of Saturday afternoons in play, or what is worse, in the grog shop.

He also strongly advised the emigrant to buy only what land he could cultivate and improve. He warned against investing all available monies in land, when some would undoubtedly be needed for improvements, living expenses and emergencies.

According to Darby, "it

may not be thought probable, but is nevertheless a fact, that within the last 20 years no subject has been more productive of ruin . . . than indiscreet land purchases. The farmer, who with a moderate capital and a family ought to prefer a small, fertile and well situated tract as his place of beginning. His surplus ought to be appropriated to improvement, and will if judiciously applied, produce more and in a shorter time than if invested in superfluous landed estate."

The Emigrant's Guide tried to counsel everyone and gave all sorts of advice to appeal to all kinds of travelers. Darby told how "the ordinary expenses of traveling do not greatly vary, in different parts of the United States, in a given distance, but there is a great and essential difference in time. Where steamboats, good and convenient ferries, and stages, are established, the rate at which a traveler can advance is much accelerated, but his expenses are in proportion to the conveniences with which

THE TRIBUNE-STAR, TERRE H

he is provided; and though he can proceed on his way with more celerity, he cannot pass from place to place, with much if any less money than by the old fashion of riding a good horse." A good horse cost about 80 dollars in 1817.

Over 150 years have passed since William Darby wrote his Emigrant's Guide for those planning to "go West." There are no stage coaches, only one steamboat on the Ohio river, and very few ferries left. He had never dreamed of trains, automobiles, buses, jet planes, motorcycles, bicycles and even roller skates had not been invented then. But Darby had never experienced a traffic jam, waiting at a railroad crossing for a long, slow freight train to pass, nor the long delays in air travel of today . . . maybe he was right a good horse is still the best way to travel across Indiana!

Artifacts Reveal the History of Housewares

Is SEP 8 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

A most interesting book has just been published by The National Housewares Manufacturers Association. It tells the story of an industry whose roots literally go back to the first man who cooked a piece of raw meat with a crudely improvised utensil, to the sprawling industrial giant that has grown at ever-increasing speed in the years since World War II, reaching an annual retail volume of over \$15 billion last year.

The publication, "The Housewares Story," is an historical saga illustrated with all the artifacts of culture, historians and archaeologists tell us, offer the most revealing evidence about what early people were like and how they lived.

When you go back far enough you find the first culinary item of all was the stick—the simple wooden skewer—on which prehistoric man hung his meat while it cooked. Or, to be precise, while it broiled. It even had the very modern advantage of being disposable after use.

In the museums, ancient housewares are on view, telling the story of how our forbears once went about the business of keeping house, such as it was, with the kind of things which today we call housewares, things they used for preparing and cooking food, for eating and drinking, for cleaning and washing.

It was a half million years ago, anthropologists tell us, when man first learned the use of fire and began to make recognizable tools. Not until 5,000 B.C. did he learn to weave baskets and make crude pottery. By 3,500 B.C. he had started to work copper, bronze and gold. A thousand years later he found out how to make glass and in 2,500 B.C. metal working in iron began.



DOROTHY J. CLARK

Periodically the artisans and traders would meet at fairs or festivals to buy, sell or barter one another's wares. The walking tin peddler delivered his wares to the housewife's door, as did the horse-drawn pots and pans peddler of later years.

Beloved to many generations and historically important in conquering the American frontier, the old country store was one of the original houseware's market places.

In the early days a pantry was considered a necessity for a well-mannered kitchen. As far back as the days when the kitchen—or keeping room—was where the family really lived, the cooking needs were squirreled away in a pantry. As homes became more advanced, menus more complex, and supplies more

numerous, the kitchen developed as a working room, but the pantry was still the place where pots and pans were stowed, milk pans set out for the cream to rise, and cakes and pies lined up to cool.

About the turn of the century homes in which there was much entertaining had two pantries. One would be in the kitchen section for food and gear, and another connected the kitchen and dining room and was used for serving.

In the twenties, pantries were considered old hat, kitchens were equipped with "Hoosier" cabinets and shelves, and the pantry became passe.

Continued On Page 7, Col. 5.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Today, with informal living the rule, the kitchen sees many activities, and with so many more foods, etc. to store, lo and behold, back comes the pantry!

Until 1850 the brooms used in America, as in Europe, were quite primitive affairs, usually little more than a bundle of thin twigs tied to a handle. In that year, however, some unsung farmer realized how effectively a tuft of the corn plant could be used as a brush and he inadvertently swept a whole new industry into being. Entirely American, broom factories sprang up in many parts of the country.

In the early days, the winter evening's work of many farmers throughout the country was the making of brooms. In New England they were made of birch and ash; in other parts of the country hickory answered the purpose as well. To make an ordinary Indian or spint broom, a birch or other tree about five inches in diameter where it was cut off, was used. A stock about six feet long was cut from this tree.

The maker then began to

sliver with a sharp jackknife little flat slivers up the ring. This was continued until the heart was reached. When all this was done, there only remained to whittle off the part above to the size of a handle.

Many brooms were made by hand in various penitentiaries throughout the country and in blind asylums as the work was especially adapted to blind men.

Early housewives were told to wet brooms in boiling suds once a week to toughen their brooms so they would not cut out a carpet, last much longer, and always sweep clean.

A handful or two of damp salt sprinkled on the carpet was too attract and absorb the dust. Wet corn meal was also used in this manner, and some housewives used damp cabbage leaves cut up small to lighten their sweeping chores. If the carpet was very dusty, she was to set a pail of cold water outside the room door, wet the broom in it, knock it to get all the drops off, sweep a yard or so, then wash the broom and sweep again, until the job was done.

If that didn't work, the pioneer housewife was told to shake and beat the carpet

AUTE, IND.

JUNE

well, tack it firmly to the floor, then with clean flannel wash it over with a quart of bullock's fall mixed with three quarts of soft cold water, and rub it off with a clean flannel.

When we contrast the houseware items in museums today, with the items we have in our homes and use daily without much thought as to their convenience, we can be thankful we are still not making our own brooms, or cooking our meat over a fire with a stick!

Local Editor Published 1864 City Directory

Community Affairs File

TS DEC 29 1974 By DOROTHY J. CLARK

Back in 1864, R. H. Simpson, editor and publisher of the UNION DEMOCRAT, a Terre Haute newspaper, decided to branch out and become a book binder. He also determined to publish the Terre Haute City Directory of 1864 because, as he wrote in his foreword, "the Directories that have been issued heretofore have been compiled by persons who were non-residents of the City, and were gotten up solely for the money they would bring the adventurers, they caring nothing whether the work was correct or not."

Having had numerous occasions to use the earlier and the 1864 directories I can't see that Simpson did a better job, but at least he did not do a worse job of putting out the book. He reported that the population of Terre Haute stood between 11 and 12 thousand and was rapidly increasing. In 1850 our population was 4,051 and ten years later in 1860 it was about 9,000.

As described, Terre Haute must have been "Pride City" indeed in 1864 — "The public buildings, business houses and dwellings were beautiful, and many of them equal to those of any city."

"There is a great degree of taste and elegance displayed in the grounds, shrubbery and lawns surrounding the private dwellings. In this respect perhaps Terre Haute has not an equal in the State. In the early settlement of the place great attention was paid to the planting of shade trees



DOROTHY J.
CLARK

on the margins of the streets and throughout the public grounds. The black locust of the country was universally

Chosen. Some years since, this variety of tree was wholly destroyed by the horer insect, and the city robbed of some of its beauty. Formerly, in the season when the locusts were in bloom and the air of the spring was laden with the perfume of their flowers, the city seemed like a garden . . . The loss of the locusts is being speedily regained by the planting of the maple and other varieties of native forest trees, which, in a few years, will surpass in their loveliness the pioneer locusts

"A new bridge now being erected at the foot of Wabash Street . . . will in a few years supercede the old temporary structure" (at the foot of Ohio St.).

"Terre Haute has always been noted for the amount of its mercantile trade. From its foundation (1816) to the present time (1864) it has furnished a very large market for merchandise of every kind, and has been conspicuous for the number, probity, wealth and energy of its merchants as a class."

"There are now in the city over a hundred large retail stores, displaying every variety of stocks . . . There are also several large wholesale grocery and liquor stores, seven large drug stores, 20 clothing stores, seven boot and shoe stores, three book stores, five large

hardware stores, three leather stores, and an innumerable variety of provision, confectionary and other smaller stores . . . The amount of merchandise of all kinds retailed in the city has doubtless reached, for five

years past, an annual average of \$3 million."

Simpson reported that the heaviest trade of Terre Haute, so far as the capital invested was concerned, had been in

Continued On Page 10, Col. 1.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Dorothy Clark

Continued From Page 4.

pork packing since 1824.

Manufacturing was growing in 1864, near the end of the Civil War. There were two large foundries and machine shops, four flouring mills, one extensive steam saw mill, two woolen factories, one plow manufactory, six brick yards, two planing mills, one extensive distillery, three breweries, two large stave and barrel factories, two furniture manufacturing firms, two soap and candle factories, a blank book manufactory, three carriage factories, a gas works plus the extensive machine shops connected with the various railroads here.

In 1864 there were five large hotels in Terre Haute, the Terre Haute House, Buutin's Hotel, the Clark House, the Stewart House and the National Hotel (which had been closed for some years). There were three volunteer fire companies.

Terre Haute boasted of four city owned schools with 1,460 pupils and 21 teachers. Students ranged in age from five to 21 years! There were also several private schools and schools for higher learning such as St. Vincent's Academy for girls under the control of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary's, the new female college on S. 6th St. run by Rev. Covert, and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College.

Terre Haute had 15 churches in 1864 including two Presbyterian, four Methodist, two Baptist, one Episcopalian, one Roman Catholic, one German Lutheran, one Evangelical Lutheran, one Universalist, one Congregationalist, and one Jewish Synagogue.

It was felt that "when this unnatural war is ended" meaning the Civil War, Terre Haute would become a large inland city. Albert Lange was mayor then. Other city officials were William A. Moore, marshal; J. F. Gulick, clerk; E. D. Carter, treasurer; P. B. O'Reilly, assessor; C. N. Demorest, engineer; George G. Boord, street commissioner; Richard W. Thompson, city attorney; Peter Kelly, cemetery superintendent; and Drs. James Bell, William L. Mahan and J. H. Long, board of health.

Because of the Civil War, Terre Haute had five military companies — the Union Rifles, the Meade Guards, the Terre Haute Guards, the German Guards and the German Artillery.

The city had three newspapers — the Wabash Express and Union Democrat were daily and weekly; the Terre Haute Journal was weekly only. R. H. Simpson was the editor of the Union Democrat at the corner of Fourth and Ohio where he also operated a book bindery and published the city directory.

There were two libraries in 1864 — the McClure Company Library at Scott & Crane's Law Office on Ohio between 3rd and 4th Sts., and the Township Library located at Zenas Smith's office on Main St., over W. H. Isaac's shoe store.

I could only find three businesses mentioned in the 1864 directory that are still with us today — Heind Florists, Hulman & Co., and the Terre Haute House, all over 110 years old!

Oakey's Book Describes 1889 Life in Terre Haute

Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

TS OCT 12 1975

Eighty six years ago a nine-part book was published entitled TERRE HAUTE ILLUSTRATED. The text was written by newspaper man C. C. Oakey. Although the beautiful photographs are the most interesting part of the book, his text is somewhat helpful to present day historians.

Oakey explained how "the French voyageurs had rowed their bateaux down the Wabash river for many years to Vincennes and on to the Ohio River. This elevated plateau, its bank grassy and flowery, its crest green with thicket and grove and the prairie stretching back to the low hills, was the highest point in many miles, and as it faced the low bottom lands across the river seemed very high, and so they called it "highland" or Terre Haute, a term which is a sort of shibboleth by which to distinguish strangers who are apt to change the plain "tare-hote" into any but the right sound, while the citizen says either "Terry Hote" or "Tare-hote" as it pleases him.

Referring to our river, Oakey went on to explain "in Wabash we retain the original Indian term, perhaps modified a little by the French. Father Marquette wrote of the Ouabous-Kigon, and later French travelers called it the Ouabache, Oubash, Wabascon, Waubache and other but similar names, using probably as nearly as possible the words from various Indian dialects, differing but little for "White River."

Referring to our river, Oakey went on to explain "in Wabash we retain the original Indian term, perhaps modified a little by the French. Father Marquette wrote of the Ouabous-Kigon, and later French travelers called it the Ouabache, Oubash, Wabascon, Waubache and other but similar names, using probably as nearly as possible the words from various Indian dialects, differing but little for "White River."

In 1781 Capt. Thomas Bullitt and some adventurous friends founded the present city of Louisville, Ky. In 1816, Cuthbert and Thomas Bullitt of Louisville, with Abraham Markle, H. acnth LaSalle and Jonathan Lindley, as the Terre Haute Land Company, bought thirteen tracts of land on which to lay out this city. The original boundaries of the town were the river and 5th St. and Eagle and Oak streets. At times the community was entirely cut off from the outside world by impassable roads and river freshets, and at best, communication was by rough roads and occasional stage coaches or wagons, or by little steamers and keel-boats.

Oakey believed "there were two distinct eras in Terre Haute's early history. The first was from 1816 to 1850, the years of the stage coach, flat boat and canal boat, and from 1851 to 1889, when the book was printed, when railroads were projected and built."

Terre Haute's growth continued because the town was chosen as the county seat of Vigo County, formed in 1818, and when the National Road was routed through the little city. In 1823, Terre Haute had 50 houses and 300 people. By 1832, the population had doubled to 600 people. In 1835, the population had doubled again to 1,214 and there were 19 brick and 12 wooden store buildings. Taxes were listed at

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over

131 to 50c per 100 acres of land.

The nine sections of TERRE HAUTE ILLUSTRATED contain photographs of streets, downtown buildings, churches, schools, cemeteries, parks, the river, residences of prominent citizens and bird's eye views from the dome of the courthouse looking in all directions north, south, east, west, northwest, southwest, northeast and southeast.

The twelve street scenes include looking north on 6th from Eagle, the northwest corner 6th and Wabash showing the statue of Mercury high above McKeen's Bank and horsedrawn streetcar with the sign "Polytechnic" on its side. Ohio west from 6th, Ohio east from 3rd, 8th north from Mulberry, Walnut west from 6th, Wabash east from 6th, 7th north from Mulberry, 5th south from Oak, 6th north from Crawford, 5th north from Oak and Wabash west from 8th.

Indiana State Normal School had burned in 1888, but its photograph was included. Cemeteries pictured were Woodlawn and the newly established Highland Lawn with very few tombstones.

In 1889, Terre Haute had 14,000 pupils in the city schools, but only City School No. 3 at 930 S. 3rd St. was shown, and the Terre Haute High School, later known as Wiley High School. Also shown were Coates College for Women, 429 Osborne St., Benedict's German Catholic School, St. Joseph's Male Academy and Rose Polytechnic Institute which had opened in 1883 at 13th and Locust (later used for Gerstmeier High School).

Residences included in the 1889 publication were those of E. Gilbert, 23 Gilbert Place, Frank McKeen, 655 Cherry, H. H. Boudinot, 672 Eagle,

Theo. Hudnut, 627 Cherry, William Armstrong, 652 Sycamore or 308 Walnut, there were two of that name listed in the city directory, Robert Andrew, 1434 Chestnut, Col. Richard W. Thompson, 1214 S. 6th St., Elsha Havens, 705 S. 5th, T. B. Johns, 507 S. 6th, the Woman's Department Club, old Canal office, 629 Ohio, which became the G. W. Bement home after being remodeled by Lucius Ryce, C. Fairbanks, 400 S. 6th, William R. McKeen, 221 S. 6th, A. J. Crawford, 405 S. 6th, D. W. Henry, 1212 S. 6th, J. N. Whonhart, 1100 S. 7th, J. A. Parker, 405 S. 6th, A. Arnold, 530 S. 6th and J. P. Crawford, 434 N. Center St.

The Sarah Dowling Home for Old Ladies, opened during 1859 and endowed by William R. McKeen who purchased it and enlarged and improved the old Dowling Homestead, is shown. Located at 1016 N. 6th St., it has recently been razed and the site is now used for a low income housing complex.

More Park, showing the small lake, was also photographed. Does anyone know exactly where it was located in 1889?

Downtown buildings shown are the McKeen Block, 644 3/4 Wabash, Naylor Opera House, northeast corner 4th and Wabash, Fire Department Headquarters, Orphan's Home, City Market complete with hay wagon, Rose Orphan's Home, St. Anthony's Hospital, Deming Block, northeast corner 6th and Wabash, Court House, County Jail, Clift, Williams & Co., Phoenix Foundry, National House, and the post office of 1889 showing the highly polished columns of Maine granite ornamenting the north and east facades (these are now in Fairbanks Park as the Chauncey Rose Memorial).

County Histories Are Alike. . . Only the Names Are Changed

Community Affairs File

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

OCT 19 1975

When you've read as many county histories as I have over the years, it's amazing how they all have so many similarities — only the names of the pioneers, their townships, counties, states, rivers and creeks are different.

One account tells of an early Hoosier who moved on his land in a thick forest in March, 1826, with his family of eight children. Neighbors had cut down enough trees for their log cabin and "raised it" the day they arrived. One man hauled the logs with his ox-team while the neighbors notched them up, covered them with clapboards and cut out a door.

Wolves howled nightly, but the cabin was up, even if it had no floor, fire-place or door shutter. One-third of March was gone, and not a foot of land had been cleared. Six acres were measured off that would have to be cleared, under-grubbed and fenced.

The father and his two oldest sons, aged 11 and 13, had to build some kind of a pen to protect the horses from the enormous horse flies. They raised a pen 14x20 feet, high enough for joists, then covered it with brush to make it dark. That kept the flies off when in the stable, but when working they were constantly annoyed.

Deer was plenty, but there was no time to go hunting. The creek was full of fish, but fishing was only allowed on Sunday. Turkeys gobbled close by in the early morning, and the husband shot one whenever meat was needed for the table.

By the 10th of June, they had 6 acres of corn planted, but had to defend it against squirrels and raccoons. They thought it had been planted for them. Raccoon skins went into the fur market for 5 to 25 cents apiece. Coon skins and ginseng were the staple articles of trade in 1826.

In the winter of 1827, the man of the house got his leg cut by a neighbor's flying axe handle and was laid up till spring. With the help of the neighbors (and what would the pioneers have done without good ones?) they had

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added six more cleared acres to the farm. They, in turn, helped roll logs and raise cabins every week in the early spring. Rattlesnakes and Indians were very plentiful. Because this homestead was located on the trace leading from Thorntown to Billy Conner's, the agent for the Miamis, Indians were seen very day the first summer.

When they wanted a sack to carry potatoes, turnips or corn, they would spread down a blanket and double the first side over two-thirds of the width, then the other side so as to lap over one-third of the first lap, then gather the ends and tie a string tightly around each end. They would open the fold in the middle and fill the ends with whatever they wished to take with them.

If they bought pumpkins they would plug out the stem and blossom ends with their butcher knives, double a small rope and put this through four pumpkins, two on each end, with a small stick to keep them from slipping. Throwing them across their ponies they would scamper. They always had handkerchiefs, shawls, calico, broadcloth, fancy moccasins or some beads to

trade for the settler's produce.

The nearest mill was invariably miles away and no good roads, so two of the boys would shell two sacks of corn, throw them across two horses and ride off to the mill.

Sometimes the family would live for days on parched corn. Other times they would grind their corn in a mortar made by burning out a stump or the end of a block, and pound it into a kind of coarse meal, sieve out the finest for bread, and use the rest for hominy.

In the early days all settlers lived on a diet of corn bread, hog meat, potatoes, turnip greens and berry and pumpkin pies.

Boone County was the only place I've found where they had "blanket kickings." After a few years, when the farmers began to raise sheep, the farmers would take their wool to the carding machine and have it made into rolls, then the women would spin, scour and color such as was to be used for wearing apparel. But for blankets they wove in the grease as it was spun. Then the scouring was to be done.

A neighbor with a suitable floor in his house would have the "blanket kicking." This was the work of the boys. Taking off their shoes and socks, they would sit down in a ring with their feet together. The women would then throw down four or five blankets between their feet. The warm water and soap were poured on the blankets and the kicking commenced.

The flow of soap suds on the floor can be imagined. The boys would sit on blocks 4 or 5 inches high and the girls on chairs at their backs to keep them in place. For fun, the girls would sometimes kick the blocks from under the boys, letting them sit down in the soap suds, but it was all good "clean" fun.

When the blankets were finished the floor was cleaned, supper set, and after the meal was over the fiddle was brought out and the dancing lasted until after midnight.

Other social gatherings, other than house-raisings and log-rollings, were quilting-bees, husking-parties, flax-pullings and chopping-frolics. The flax and wool wheels soon had no place in the farm house, and the loom was used only for rag carpets.

Historically Speaking

JAN 1 1976

By DOROTHY J. CLARK



A red-bound book of 48 pages was donated to the local history collection of the Vigo County Historical Society. Compiled for the specific purpose of raising money for a relief fund, the "Prefatory" explained why.

It seems the Fire Laddies of Terre Haute were "pre-empted from the benefits of general insurance by the very nature of their dangerous avocation and, that the efforts of the Legislature in their behalf — hereby a relief fund was established through the taxation of insurance companies for their benefit, has been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court: hence, the men who stand bravely between our citizens and the ravages of the fire fiend, are practically without protection for themselves and families in the event of accident . . ."

All proceeds from the sale of the book were to "form a fund from which our brave laddies can draw benefits in times of disaster and need."

Serving on the Board of Fire Commissioners in 1894 were Joseph B. Fuqua, chairman, born in Vigo County in 1857, who came to Terre Haute in 1871. Engaged in the grocery business, he was elected to the city council in 1891 and appointed to the board in 1892.

Also, S. L. Fenner, a native of Ohio, but long a resident of Terre Haute, who was engaged in the hardware trade. He was elected to the city council in 1893, and appointed on the Fire Board in 1894.

The third member was J. Liehr, a native Hoosier, who was engaged in tailoring with the firm of Goodman & Hirschler. He was elected a council member in 1894 and appointed to the Fire Board in the same year.

At this time, Fred A. Ross was the mayor of Terre Haute. He was born in Searsport, Maine, in 1834. He first came to this city in 1846, becoming a permanent resident in 1847, attending public schools until 1851 and working part-time in the general store of his father, John C. Ross.

After two years at Wabash College, he became a clerk in his father's store, and in 1854 became a partner. The firm was then known as John C. Ross & Son. In 1863, he became proprietor.

During the Civil war, Ross was captain of Company D, 133rd Indiana Infantry Regiment. After the war he formed a partnership with Linus A. Burnett as Burnett & Ross, wholesale saddlery, hardware and leather business until 1873 when he sold out to George Kerckhoff & Son. Ross then entered the real estate business, and in 1894 was a partner in Ross & McFarland.

Politically a Republican, Ross was elected mayor in 1892 for a term of two years, and re-elected in 1894 for four years.

The Fire Chief then was J. D. Jones, a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. Born in 1846, he attended common school

before being apprenticed to the trade of steamboat engineer, and was only 17 years old when he stood at the throttle of The Springfield No. 22 of the Mississippi squadron, as engineer at Vicksburg.

He came to Terre Haute in 1872, and entered the fire department in 1876 as engineer of Engine Company No. 2. Elected chief engineer of the department in 1890, he retired from service in 1892, but was re-elected in 1894. Known as a "thorough disciplinarian, kindly and considerate of the welfare of his men," Chief Jones took special pride in the morale of his force of 50 men. Drunkenness and profanity were practically unknown. His assistant chief was Theodore Goodman, a local man, who was in charge of all clerical work.

J. W. Harrold was Superintendent of the Fire Alarm Telegraph. Born in Mooresville, Ind., in 1846, he came to Terre Haute in 1878 and worked in a store until his appointment as lineman in 1880. In September, 1894, he fell from a telegraph pole and broke both his arm and leg, the latter in four places. He was incapacitated for some time.

Lawrence C. Kretz was acting superintendent. Born in Montezuma, Ind., in 1851, he came to Terre Haute in 1868 and followed the trade of plasterer until entering fire service in 1878 as a pipeman.

Captains of the local fire department in 1894 were: William F. Jones, Elias F. Leonard, John Comoford, John Osterloo, Albert Schuster, Henry McAllister, John L. McConnell, John H. Lawler, James P. Burke and John Falvey, the youngest at 23 years of age.

The department was equipped with two Jeffers steamers, one Babcock aerial truck, one Babcock plain truck, one double tank, Babcock Chemical Engine, five hose wagons, one hose

reel, one Babcock hose carriage, two chief's buggies, 28 horses, 8,000 feet of hose and 64 fire alarm boxes . . . and seven fire houses.

From the days of the first volunteer fire company in 1855, no public function was complete without a parade of its members. Their scarlet shirts embellished every fair ground and their annual tournaments provided the social climax of each year's glory the Fireman's Ball.

Community Affairs File

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~~Agriculture Board~~
Historically
TS AUG 15 1976
Speaking
Community Affairs File
By DOROTHY J. CLARK



A copy of the Sixth Report of Indiana State Board of Agriculture, containing the transactions of the board and reports of county agricultural societies for 1857, was loaned to me by Ned Pennington, local conservationist.

Printed in Indianapolis in 1858, the 118-year-old book contains much interesting information such as how to make molasses from the then new Chinese sugar cane, how wheat grown in Clay County was sold in Terre Haute for 60 cents a bushel, and how potatoes grown 400 bushels to the acre sold for 25 cents per bushel.

The Committee on Domestic Manufactures reported they had examined a number of wool blankets. The blue ribbon was given to D. Yount of Marion County. Worthy of notice were four coverlids and counterpanes made by Maria Bergen, of Johnson County.

Prizes were awarded for the fanciest hair wreath "which was quite neat and very skillfully made, but we could not help pitying the head whose flowing tresses had been shorn to weave into this vain ornament."

Prizes were given for the best victorine and muftes made of anser-down, a Talma victorine and several specimens of cracknells. I sure would have liked to have seen those State Fair exhibits

Entries were reported of infinite variety—blacking and barley, blankets and book-binding, cologne and corn, cucumbers and counterpanes, coal and catsup, chairs and chickens, flour and fences, guns and gummers, jellies and lifting jacks, molasses and music, pianos and pumpkins, raisins and roofing, saws and soap, steamers and stoves, etc....

J. F. Gookins, of Terre Haute, exhibited a seedling fall apple "which was both fair to the eye and pleasant to the taste. We award him \$2."

D. E. Agar, of Vigo County, won second best for his display of dahlias. James D. Wright, of Vigo County, exhibited the best specimen of fruit painting, while Miller & Peaslee, of Vigo County, had the second best specimen of daguerreotype. N. Duval, also local, won first prize for a rifle gun.

James F. Gookins, of Vigo County, took a second best for his specimen of landscape

painting, another for a fancy painting, and for a portrait painting. He took best specimen for another portrait and fruit paintings.

Aaron H. Vestal took first prize for producing 113 lbs. of crystalized sugar from one-eighth of an acre of Chinese Sugar Cane of "Sorgho Sucre." For this accomplishment, he won a \$30 silver pitcher.

He told how he obtained seed from the Patent Office and from a man in Georgia for his experiment with the new farm product (1856-7). He planted the seed in a former sweet potato patch, about twelve seeds in a hill, covered it about two inches deep, and awaited the results. His neighbors jokingly called it his broom or chocolate o chicken corn.

Early in August, Mr. Vestal cut four hills, the ripest just in bloom, and ran them through the new little hand-mill he had purchased and got nearly six quarts of juice. This he boiled down on the stove to about one quart, but as it was neither strained or skimmed, much of it was not fit for use. Convinced that the molasses was there and would pay, he built a furnace with three common iron kettles holding from 15 to 20 gallons each.

About the middle of September, he boiled down another batch and made a few gallons of pretty fair-looking molasses. Not satisfied with the "green taste", he experimented with several different methods of boiling, skimming, and straining, even using eggs and milk to help "settle" the batch.

After perfecting his processing, his neighbors quit jesting about his broom corn or chocolate corn, and bought all the molasses he could spare. In fact, many of them decided to plant a crop of the new Chinese sugar cane the next year.

A summary of the weather for the years 1852-1858 was included in the State Agriculture Report. What was more important to the farmer than the weather?

The sky was clear 312 days, nearly so 419, cloudy 537, nearly so 166, and variable 1,123. The wind blew from the north 15 days, northeast 176, east 39, southeast 242, south 25, southwest 567, west 111, northwest 477, variable 796, and calm 9.

Temperatures ranged from

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30 below zero on Jan. 19, 1852 to 105 degrees on July 16, 1856. The coldest month during the seven years was January, 1857, when the mean temperature was 14 degrees. The warmest month in that period was July, 1854, with 76 degrees as the average.

The wettest day in the seven years was Dec. 23, 1852, when the depth of water was four inches. The driest month was June, 1856, with no rain. During the seven years, the wettest year was 1855 with 4 feet 8 77 inches of water. The driest year was 1856 with only one foot, 11.32 inches of water.

The seven years totalled 18 feet, 2.98 inches of snow. The greatest depth of snow in one day, Jan. 20, 1857, and Nov. 27, 1858, each was 8.50 inches. January, 1855, took the record for the deepest snow in one month with one foot, 9.70 inches.

Rain fell during the seven years on 950 days. Snow fell on 338 days. Water (we suppose in some other form other than rain or snow, maybe sleet, heavy dew?) fell on 1,231 days. And there were 1,326 days when neither rain or snow fell.

In Indiana, it was decided, that winds blew mostly from the northeast, northwest and southwest, the last being the most prevalent. Westerly winds have been the prevailing winds in eastern Indiana during the 1852-58 years.

Good advice for the young farmer was: "A little farm well-tilled, a little barn well-filled, and a little wife well-willed."

Historically Speaking

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

To NOV 14 1978



An old Sears, Roebuck & Company catalog is reported to be one of the best sources of learning how our ancestors lived their daily lives, what they wore, how they furnished their home, and even the tools they worked with. Historians, writers, researchers, hobbyists, students, teachers, artisans, musicians, or just plain people with a nostalgic streak, all will find much to read and enjoy.

There's no better way to escape from these times of pollution, energy crisis, cold wars and hot wars, and all the noisy people in this world than to read about the good old days.

Mail order marketing is a peculiarly American institution. As early as 1865, a number of manufacturers were selling their products by mail, but E. C. Allen, in Augusta, Maine, is credited with pioneering mail order merchandising in 1870. In the Midwest, a Chicago merchant, Montgomery Ward, was firmly established when Sears entered the selling field in 1886.

Richard Warren Sears was born in Stewartville, Minnesota in 1863, and while still in his teens learned telegraphy and went to work for the railroad. While serving as Station Agent at North Redwood, Minn., a local jeweler refused a shipment of watches and the shipper offered them on consignment to Sears. The deal proved so profitable that he ordered more watches for resale. In a few months, he was doing so well he quit the railroad to set up a full-time mail order business as the R.W. Sears Watch Company. In 1887, he moved to Chicago and hired a watch repairman from Hammond, Indiana, Alvah Curtis Roebuck.

The business prospered, and after several changes of operation became a partnership in 1893.

"The Great Price Maker," Sears 1908 catalog, contained something for everyone. Three languages, English, German and Swedish, told the prospective purchaser how easy it was to order.

In those days, a two-story frame house could be painted for about nine dollars, and a room could be wall-papered by a do-it-yourselfer for 26 cents.

The budding pianist was assured on page 216 that "This

piano is Mouse Proof." Sage advice for the sportsman still using Grandpa's muzzle loader is "Don't use a mallet for ramming the powder," although how anyone could resist the Atlas .22 rifle "reduced to \$1.48" or a Springfield trapdoor 45-70 with twenty rounds of ammunition for only \$2.75.

The catalog proclaimed "We do not exchange new safety razor blades for old ones." They would, however, make a straight razor to order to fit your beard and engrave your name in gold on the blade for two dollars. And finally, for the unfortunate woman nature forgot, there were H & H Bust Forms which "can not be detected by sight or touch."

Mr. Sears became one of the first merchandisers to effectively use the "loss leader." In the last eight pages of the catalog were all sorts of small items needed for every day living, priced at two, four, six or eight cents each.

For example, one could buy for two cents such items as spoons, tools, hinges, fans, corkscrews, potato mashers and fly swatters. First, it encouraged the cautious to "gamble" and find out how easy it really was to place a mail order; and second, it started people writing orders to which they would add higher priced merchandise from other parts of the book. It accomplished exactly what Sears had intended and these bargain offers remained in the catalog until Sears' retirement.

Most astonishing fashion in the large section devoted to women's wear were the over-large fancy hats decorated with everything under the sun from bird's wings, plumes, artificial flowers and ribbons, to yards and yards of silk chiffon and veiling. These gigantic monstrosities were anchored to the female head by huge hatpins run through the piled-up hairstyles of 1908.

From cream separators to sewing machines, bicycles to buggies, fine jewelry and watches to garden seeds, and tombstones to phonographs with morning glory horns, the catalog is fascinating from cover to cover.

Stereoscopes ranging from 28 to 49 cents for aluminum and 60 cents for walnut with extra large lens were offered, along with stereoscopic view cards. Latest views in 1908 in-

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cluded the San Francisco earthquake and fire in 1906, the Japanese-Russian War, and the usual trips to the Holy Land and children's stories.

With the handy eye chart persons could prescribe and order their own spectacle needs. To my generation who came along too late for the horse-drawn vehicles, it doesn't seem possible there could be such a choice of wheeled wagons, carts, runabouts, phaetons, surreys, cabriolets, etc., to say nothing of all the different types of harness, saddles, fittings for horses of all kinds.

In those good old days, one could purchase a Bavarian chocolate set with big red hand-painted roses for only \$1.98. Sets of 100 pieces of the very best French Limoges Haviland in the Rose Wreath pattern cost only \$31, while the Rose Spray pattern cost \$27.

The pink Wild Crab Apple blossoms on green moss fern background with genuine coin gold knobs and handles cost only \$23. Frankly, I could bear to read no more.

—Historically Speaking—

Community Affairs File

By Dorothy Clark

Old advertisements prove quite interesting

TS SEP 18 1977



Many times the advertisements printed in an old souvenir book or booklet prove to be much more interesting than the original contents.

Published in 1894 by G.H. Hebb for the Firemen's Relief Association, the Souvenir of the Terre Haute Fire Department carried local advertisements on every other page.

Full page ads were devoted to the three railroads, Big Four, E. & T.H., and the Vandalia Line; Schlitz Beer, and some of the more important local business firms.

Prox & Brinkman Manufacturing Company, 201-301 N. 9th St., advertised Frank Prox's Patent Steam or Hot Water Boiler.

They also made fine iron hitching posts and stable fixtures.

Hulman & Company, 9th and Main, importers, jobbers and manufacturers, advertised Dauntless coffee and showed a photo of a can of "One Nickel Baking Powder," the forerunner of Clabber Girl.

There was also a photo of the building.

Hulman & Beggs, corner of 9th and Cherry, wholesale liquor dealers, importer of wines and cordials, high grade California wines a speciality, was operated by H. Hulman Jr. and J.E. Beggs.

Joseph Strong & Company, wholesale grocers, operated the Terre Haute Coffee & Spice Mills.

John Beggs was manager of the Wabash Distillery, and John E. Beggs, assistant manager.

The ad stated that this was the "largest and most thoroughly equipped distillery in the world. Makes 40,000 gallons of cologne spirits and alcohol daily, consuming 8,000 bushels of corn daily. Feeds 7,000 head of cattle annually. Finest product made in the U.S."

The Terre Haute Medical and Deformity Institute, located at 1210 S. 3rd St., was a two-story frame house with shutters and several additions and outbuildings.

A hammock was stretched between two huge trees on the front lawn.

The Medical Director was E.R. Keen, O.S., M.D., who purported to cure "all curable chronic diseases, hernia, club feet, hip and spinal diseases, wry necks, cross eyes, fits,

even cancer (where not broken)."

They even had a lady specialist in charge of female and skin diseases, superfluous hair and facial blemishes.

Pixley & Company, manufactured every garment they sold in 13 stores.

They specialized in men's, boy's and children's clothing.

Goodman & Hirschler, at 410 Wabash, offered clothing, tailoring and uniforms made to order.

C.M. Gillmore, 26 S. 3rd St., made custom made shoes for men.

Lewis Lockwood, established in Terre Haute since 1880 with 36 years of experience, manufactured artificial legs and arms, braces, trusses, crutches, in Room 14 of the McKeen Block, upstairs at Seventh and Wabash.

The Magnetic Mineral Springs at the foot of Walnut street was "pronounced by physicians to have the best magnetic mineral water containing the most healing and purifying properties of any water in the world... a preventative of malaria, rheumatism and diseases of the blood, and a cure for catarrh, all skin diseases, cancer, dyspepsia, diabetes and blood poisoning."

There were lady and gentleman attendants constantly in waiting.

The Springs could be reached by any street car line in the city.

The Terre Haute House was described as the "largest, most elegantly appointed and most liberally managed hotel in Indiana... with faultless beds, elevators, steam heat, electric light in all rooms, fire escapes, table unsurpassed, artesian water, private ice plant, the most sumptuously appointed cafe in Indiana, European or American plan, \$2.50 to \$5 per day, with accommodations for 550 people.

Charles Baur was the hotel proprietor.

The Terre Haute Carriage & Buggy Company, located on the corner of First and Wabash, urged the public to "patronize home industry. Keep your money at home, build up your own city, give your home mechanic a job, rather than buy foreign made goods. If you buy a vehicle made in another man's town, this causes your home mechanic to be idle and live on

snow balls this winter and a like loss to your home merchants."

The Terre Haute Shovel & Tool Company manufactured hay, straw, manure, coal, coke and spading forks, shovels, ditching tools, spades, scoops and axes of all patterns.

August Bader, proprietor of the Union House, located at the southwest corner of Ninth and Chestnut, advertised his restaurant and cafe were open all night.

J.N. Hickman, Livery and Undertaking, kept a livery barn at 21-23 N. 12th St., with undertaking at 29 N. 4th St.

J.A. Nisbet was the funeral director.

Hickman had the agency for White Sewing Machines at 306 Wabash.

The Imperial Mills, run by W.L. Kidder & Sons, was offering Kidder's Best flour and Victors, an extra fancy roller flour.

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continued

John Schneider and his sons, William and Louis, operated the Terre Haute Brass Foundry, 1116 Sycamore.

Standard Wheel was putting out 350,000 sets annually.

Hughes Decorating Company, 7th and Ohio, did frescoing and painting.

W.K. Burnett & Son, 318 Cherry, did "pathological horse shoeing."

Chris Stark was proprietor of a steam bottling works and cider mill at 200 S. 9th St.

He offered soda water of all flavors.

Book by Chester Larkins tells about growing up in Indiana

Community Affairs File

TO JAN 22 1978



Back in 1912, a baby boy was born to Harold and Julia (Critchlow) Larkins in Tulia, Swisher County, Texas. Six weeks later the family gave up homesteading in the Texas panhandle and returned to rural Indiana near Terre Haute.

According to Chester L. Larkins' booklet published recently in Kansas (he was the little Texan mentioned above), the family rented a small place called the Bowsher farm in Riley Township. After a year they moved to another small farm near Keller. Another season later they moved to the Puckett place on the Riley Road going east toward Riley.

Harold Larkins had the job from the township to drive the school wagon when young Chester started to school. He would get up very early in order to feed and harness the horses to be hitched ready for the daily journey, leaving about six o'clock to get the kids to school by 8 a.m.

He would leave the Puckett place and go west about one-quarter of a mile and turn left to reach the end of the line, a distance of about two and a half miles. This started the route and the travel back. The first kids would get on at this point and be on their way to the Riley School, a distance of about five miles from this point.

The wagon was light brown in color, shaped like a long box with sides curved slightly toward the roof with windows along the sides. Fastened along each side was a long wooden bench, just a plain bench, no stuffing or springs.

In the center was a small pot-bellied stove with a chimney that ran up through the roof. The heat was controlled only by the amount of wood or coal in the stove.

Entry was through a door in the back reached by a hanging step. The driver's seat was inside the wagon with an opening to handle the reins and control the horses. The horses were prancers, not the big type. They did their job well as they trotted along the road doing their duties.

Some of the high school boys had their own farm riding horse that they rode to school. They would always race their horse and wave as they passed the wagon to show off.

Occasionally there were problems because the road was not heavy with gravel and many times the school wagon would mire down, especially in the spring during the thaws. As more children entered the wagon, it tested the team's ability to keep the wagon moving and not to let it get mired down. It was almost like the stagecoach days as the driver had a mission, "Get the kids to school on time."

Larkins' booklet, "Growing Up In Indiana," tells how "My Dad had to drive five miles before he came back in front of our house where my sister and I were waiting. My Mother would help me get ready, being sure I had my lunch pail which consisted, as I recall, of jelly sandwiches most of the time.... When we arrived at school we were greeted by a Victrola playing a march throughout the building. This music gave us a feeling of spirit as we marched to our rooms. I can still hear the this music, but I can't remember what it was. I think it was "Onward Christian Soldiers."

"Dad then went back home, did his farm work and arrived back again to go through the same process. The trip back

took all the children to their homes... they ran from the wagon to the homes just like the kids do from the school buses today. They were not bothered by stop signs, heavy traffic or school crossings."

Other events in the Riley area related in the Larkins' account included the strange suicide of a Mr. Gross and Uncle Oren's new Ford, the first car in the Riley vicinity.

More anecdotes from this booklet will continue next Sunday, beginning with the account of the move to the Big City of Terre Haute in 1919.

Those interested in obtaining copies of the 119-page illustrated booklet should contact Chester L. Larkins, 9415 Lee Blvd., Leawood, Kansas 66206.

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Community Affairs File



History (2nd)
Some additional information
about growing up in Indiana

Community Affairs File
To JAN 29 1978

Last week's column began the account of Chester L. Larkins' publication, "Growing Up In Indiana," which he had printed in 1976.

He covers the years 1912 to 1937 when he lived in or near Terre Haute, growing up, attending school, graduating from Indiana State University in 1934 and becoming the coach at Honey Creek High School.

The booklet ends in 1937 when Larkins married his college sweetheart, Mary Ellen Cooper, and left to spend a year in New York City completing a master's degree.

The account ends with these words, "...and 39 years later in the distance one can hear the laughter of grandchildren."

When Chester was seven years old, the Big City of Terre Haute was about six miles away from their farm home near Riley, but the trip to town and back took two hours of riding time, which made the trip an infrequent one.

His father obtained a job at a livery stable on South Third Street, making the daily trip through the summer, but soon decided to move his family to a rented house in the 1300 block on South 10th Street.

The farm equipment was sold and the furniture piled

into a wagon.

The next day the wagon team returned to the farm to bring a load of hay to be stored in the loft of the barn for the horses.

When farmers came to town, they usually left their team or their horse at the livery stable for hay and a noonday feed.

Larkins' job was to keep hay in front of the horses and to see that each horse had oats or corn at noon time.

His main job was pure and simple, keeping the stable clean by moving the manure from the barn to a pile outside.

Another job was pumping water into the water trough outside the barn.

A day's work pay was three silver dollars in those times

(after World War I).

Young Chester enrolled in Cruft School along with his sister, Mid.

Their father changed jobs to become a lineman with the telephone company and later a carman's helper with the Pennsylvania Railroad in their car shops here.

This job of making and repairing box cars he kept for 35 years until retirement.

The family soon moved to a smaller house at 1525 S. 11th St.

His mother's sister, Naomi, came to live with them as a boarder.

She was only 18 or 19 at the time and came from Bicknell to work for sweatshop wages at Stahl-Urban, manufacturers of men's workclothes. Rent was \$16 a month in those days.

Chester bought his first bike and sold enough garden seed to win a radio crystal set "about the size of a mousetrap."

Mr. Northrup, a rural mail carrier who lived across the street, owned the first real radio in the neighborhood.

On Friday the 13th, June, 1924, the last day of school, Larkins told about his family

attending the Ku Klux Klan Carnival, which had been in town all week.

The KKK was very active in Terre Haute at that time.

The main attraction drawing huge crowds all week was the nightly drawing for a new Ford car.

The Adams family down the street had won a brand new Ford sedan on Tuesday and had their picture in the newspaper the following morning.

"When we arrived at the carnival," according to Larkins, "we parked and moved toward the gate where Dad bought 20 tickets at five cents each. Each ticket would buy a ride, a concession, hot dog, soda pop or just about anything available."

"My sisters, Mildred and Jean, and myself went from booth to booth with an occasional ride here and there. We were told to keep our ticket stubs for the drawing at ten

(over)

o'clock. Finally the big moment came. Dad and Mildred held 10 tickets each. When the announcer called out the winning number three times, there was a silence, then Mid finally said, "Dad, I have it." He looked and finally yelled, 'Hy-oh, hy-oh'."

The winning number was verified and the Larkins fami-

ly won the 1924 Ford.

A friend volunteered to drive it home where it was placed in the front yard.

Grandpa bought their 1922 Ford for \$275 and learned to drive at the age of 60.

Copies of the 119-page illustrated booklet "Growing Up In Indiana" may be obtained from the writer, Chester L. Larkins, 9415 Lee Blvd., Leawood, Kansas 66206.

Do-it-yourself craze nothing new; publication of 1914 told how-to

TS FEB 5 1978

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The present boom in do-it-yourself projects and handicraft kits for hobbyists and persons with leisure hours to fill continues to flood the market.

Men, women and children, young and old alike, are busily creating needlepoint, rugs, oil painting by numbers, sculpture, metal work, jewelry-making, glass work, wood-carving, macrame, decoupage, leather work, dried flower arranging, cake decorating and gourmet (and not so gourmet) cooking.

How-to books and articles are everywhere, and it's no wonder "white elephant" items are more readily available for game prizes and ways and means projects. Hobbyists run out of wall space to hang their efforts. They also run out of relatives and friends to receive the completed projects as gifts. Many of them should be buried quietly in the back yard, but their creators are too blind to admit it.

But this generation is no different from previous ones. Subscribers to *The Modern Priscilla* numbered over 400,000 in 1914. Published monthly in Boston for ten cents a copy, this publication told how to make a collar by attaching tatted motifs to a net foundation, how to use pompadour embroidery from Munich, Germany, clusters of roses and forget-me-nots in a "hedge design," on handbags and pillow covers, to name a few.

Some 64 years ago, crepe paper gifts were all the rage. Instructions were given how to construct braided crepe paper objects in all shapes and colors — pincushions, scrap-baskets, and cornucopias used for candy, fruit or hair-receivers.

Instructions were given on how to make vestlike chemisettes and embroidered blouses, cross-stitched baby clothes, linen cut-work applied on net for summer card cases, pincushions, hand-

kerchiefs and cases for gloves and veils.

In crochet work, the most popular variations were Monkey-Face, Palm Beach or Edelweiss. Irish Crochet was big for trimming dresses then the same as now.

Lingerie for the well-dressed woman included corset covers (new corsets in 1914 allowed larger waists and more comfort for the first time), adjustable bust supporters with lacing at the back (called "bras" now, even on television), and dainty kimonas with embroidered flounces.

Instructions were given to make a baby's afghan for the carriage or crib by "rake" knitting. Rake was made of smooth wooden dowels inserted in a wooden block and used as a form on which to weave and knit the design. A

pound of Germantown yarn was needed and a bone knitting needle.

China painting designs were given for tracing on a large tankard and a cheese jar.

Dress patterns showed dresses still to the floor, fitted, narrower at the hemline, with long sleeves. Elaborate hats, parasols and pointed shoes were worn with these pre-World War I fashions.

Children's fashions all had low waistlines and enormous hairbows to match for little girls. Little boys wore Balkan suits with knee trousers, long blouses or coats gathered in a flat band around the hip.

Canned goods were fairly new in 1914, and the housewife was told to open the can and dump the contents into a bowl for "re-oxygenation" for at least a half hour before using

it. Plenty of butter and a little sugar were advised to override the "tinned taste."

It was believed that ptomaine poisoning was the result of eating food that had been left standing in the open can for more than 30 minutes!

Remember the square metal thing that used to sit under the heating stove in the parlor? It was most commonly called a stove board, but was also known as a stove plate or stove zinc.

Its purpose was to protect the floor, whether by zinc or galvanized metal or lithographed steel with wooden asbestos lining. The recent energy crisis has again made these nostalgic items in demand. The stove board capital of the world, according to John Floyd, president of Wabash, Inc., is Memphis, Tenn.

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Railroads (T.H.)

24 railroaders included in book

TS DEC 17 1978

The book "Some Terre Haute Phizes" published in 1905 contained information on twenty-four local men involved somehow in railroading.

Written in a satiric vein, each biographical sketch was accompanied by a cartoon drawing attached to a photographic portrait of the biographee. We'll have space for a paragraph or two about each of them.

Edwin R. Bryant became chief train dispatcher for the Vandalia railroad at Indianapolis in 1862. At that time there were four telegraph offices between that city and Terre Haute. Part of his work was to establish more offices between 1862 and 1865 when he came to Terre Haute. In love with railroading from the start, he planned to retire only when he was affected by the pension rules of the Pennsy system.

"Colonel" Ellis E. South grew up with the Big Four railroad. He was born in 1851 at Brownsburg in Hendricks county, Ind., and daily heard the toot of the Big Four trains on the Peoria division. He came here in 1883 as ticket and freight agent at the old yellow depot at Sixth street, and after ten years, was appointed general agent with offices in the Terre Haute House.

Charles Hartenfels became general agent for Southern Indiana railroad on Sept. 1, 1901, and on Sept. 17 the first passenger train on the new road was started out of Union Depot for its trip to Bedford, the southern terminus. He had worked earlier for railroad surveying outfit of Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific in Iowa, the Ohio Valley railroad, the Evansville and Terre Haute, and the Evansville, Terre Haute and C. & E.I. railroad.

George E. Farrington had been with the Vandalia for 38 years in 1905 and had seen the road develop from a single division into a large system. He had sold Vandalia tickets to several generations of Terre Hauteans. Born in Terre Haute in 1840, he began his railroad career following Civil War service in 1865 on the Terre Haute and Richmond, then the T.H. & I. until Vandalia lines merged with the Pennsy system in 1905.

William J. Kinser, born in Terre Haute in 1872, went into contracting business with his father, Thomas W. Kinser. In 1905 he was constructing 150 miles of Chicago division of the Southern Indiana and 70 miles of the

Indianapolis division of the same railroad, contracts totaling two and half million dollars.

Orville E. Raidy, a native of Ohio, had been in the railroad business since he was fifteen years old, accepting his first position as fireman on the Sandusky division of the Big Four. Later he was with Lake Shore railroad and came to Vandalia in 1877, working his way up to trainmaster of the Peoria division and road foreman of engines. His hobby was raising chickens on his farm near St. Mary's.

Frank Leslie Campbell began as a freight brakeman and trunk smasher baggage master. He arrived in Terre Haute in 1873, and drove a grocery wagon and mule-powered streetcar before becoming Vandalia yard clerk in 1879. In 1894, he became trainmaster of the Peoria division, and in 1901 advanced to trainmaster of the Vandalia main line.

David B. Steeg was traveling passenger agent for Vandalia from Indianapolis to St. Louis and all lines tributary. In addition to railroading, he also learned telegraphy.

Robert Bell Thompson was treasurer for the Vandalia. A native Scotsman, he came to Terre Haute with his parents at age ten. He began working for Vandalia in 1881 and became treasurer in 1893.

William W. Ray quit the Vandalia in 1900 to become a successful coal operator. The president of fifteen coal companies owning eight mines, he had railroad coal contracts totaling two million dollars.

Albert D. Pendleton was division freight agent in charge of the main line, Peoria to Vincennes division, Vandalia system. He came to Terre Haute in 1903.

James J. Fagan went from messenger boy at the freight office of the E. & T.H. and C. & E.I., Tenth and Wabash, to commercial agent for both railroads.

William E. McKeever, born in Terre Haute in 1858, started working for Vandalia as messenger boy in 1873, and in 1905 was ticket seller at Union Depot. The first ticket he sold was to Macksville (West Terre Haute) for seven cents, the cheapest ticket available on the Vandalia.

John R. Connelly came to Terre Haute in 1870 and began his career as messenger boy for the C. & E.I., resigning in 1905 as general agent to

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark



become a partner of George J. Natkemper in the coal business.

Joseph S. Jenckes, Jr. became chief clerk to Supt. Downing of the main line division of the Vandalia in 1902, coming to Terre Haute in 1899.

Francis C. Crawford was the paymaster for the Vandalia. Born in Terre Haute in 1839, he served in the Civil War, had a shoe business for five years, and with the Vandalia for 27 years.

John W. Parks became chief clerk in the office of superintendent of motive power of Vandalia in 1901. He began with the railroad as a blacksmith's helper in 1891, and introduced piece work systems in Van shops here in 1897.

John Lloyd Davis was a Terre Hautean who combined railroading and music. In 1905 he was superintendent of the C. & E.I. telegraph and signal system.

William Seymour Roney was connected in an official capacity for over thirty years with the T.H. & I. railroad, the Vandalia at Terre Haute, and auditor of the company for 27 years.

Herbert E. Meginnes, chief clerk to Master Mechanic Mechling of the Vandalia, was born 1869 in Washington, D.C., and came up the ladder before coming to Terre Haute in 1897.

George E. Thickstun was yardmaster on the Vandalia. In 1898, he

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was promoted to his position with 52 miles of track in the Terre Haute yards and a hundred men in his employ. His duty was to handle all equipment, freight and passenger trains in the local yard limits.

William Charles Arp, superintendent of motive power for the Vandalia, was born in 1848 in Pennsylvania and entered railroading in 1864. He came to Terre Haute in 1896.

Gardner F. Wells, general manager of T.H. Traction & Light Co., was just completing Paris and Sullivan interurban lines when the 1905 book was published. A native of Boston, he came to Terre Haute in 1903. The Clinton line had been completed, and the local system had a hundred miles of track.

William C. Downing, superintendent of the main line of the Van, enjoyed nothing more than making inspection trips seated in a big wicker chair on the observation car. A native of Richmond, Ind., he came to Terre Haute in 1896 for St. Louis and joined the Van family here. As with all the railroad men, his work was his greatest pleasure, and he needed no hobbies.

There's something about an old city directory

Th SEP 2 1979

Historically Speaking

By Dorothy Clark



It doesn't do for me to have to look up something in an old city directory. Invariably I get hooked on reading bits and pieces of the whole volume and come up with all sorts of interesting information.

Terre Haute had two artists listed in the 1881 directory. They were Walter Sies, 634½ Main, and Metz Donnelly, 713 Ohio.

The Magnetic Artesian Springs, located on the corner of Water and Walnut streets, and the Terre Haute Sanitarium, 117 N. Sixth St., offered public bath rooms and Turkish baths.

Alpheus Odell, 429 Main, was the only bed springs manufacturer in town, but we had 27 boarding houses, 19 barbers, 14 blacksmiths and 41 boot and shoemakers.

John Hanish wove rag carpets at 21 N. Ninth St. Baganz & Faller manufactured cigar boxes at 1012 Main, for the dozen or so cigar makers here, in addition to 22 wholesale and retail cigar and tobacco dealers.

There was even a clock manufacturer in Terre Haute in 1881, the Patent Clock Works, 34 N. Sixth St. Philip H. Kadel sold horse collars and whips at 650 Main St.

Unusual occupations included an elocutionist, Mrs. M. A. Aydelotte, 418 S. Seventh; a feather renovator, John Hanley, 28½ N. Fourth, who also manufactured feather beds; a file maker, John Cline, 126 N. Fifth; James T. Moore, 657 Main, made galvanized iron cornices; and Adam R. Link was a stair builder.

Also, there were hominy manufacturers, Philip Newhart and the Hudson Company; hone polish and razor strop maker, C. A. Fera, 732 N. Sixth; horse collar makers, horse-shoers, house movers, ink manufacturers, and bell hangers who were also locksmiths.

Terre Haute had 75 saloons, 11 second-hand stores, and one each street sprinkler, dress hoop maker and trunk maker.

The list of bakers and confectioners was a long one, showing a fondness for bakery breads, cakes, pies, rolls and candies. They included August Eiser, 831 Main; F. Gardner, 620 N. Seventh; Frederick F. Heinig, 418 N. 12th; Helderle & Bro., 208 S. Fourth; Hollis & Co., 570 Lafayette; Ed E. Lawrence, 31 N. Fourth; Albert B. Mewhinney, 425 Main; George Meyer, 1112 Main, and Schmitz & Co., 310 Main. Also, August L. Schultz, 713 S. Third; Cyrus P. Stevenson, 905 Main; White & Wright, 28 N. Sixth; Scudder & Co., 22 N. Sixth; Sabin R. Baker, 22 S. Sixth; William N. Broadhurst, 230 Main; D. C. Bryant, 122 Main; Joseph A. Burns, southwest corner Third and Main; John H. Chapman, 19 S. Sixth, and Charles Heinig, northeast corner Tenth and

weekly Terre Haute Enterprise, with Miss E. M. Flannagan, editor and proprietor; Terre Haute Express, daily and weekly, established 1841; Terre Haute Evening Gazette and Weekly Gazette, established 1868; Terre Haute Saturday Courier, established 1877, and the evening Terre Haute Daily News.

When clearing out family papers in old trunks or desk drawers, people frequently find old lodge pins, badges and ribbons of secret societies. In answer to many requests for help in identifying these memorabilia, here's a rundown on the local organizations.

Masonic organizations included Social Lodge No. 86, Terre Haute Council No. 8, Eastern Star Chapter 43, Humboldt Lodge No. 42, Terre Haute Lodge No. 19, Terre Haute Chapter No. 11, Terre Haute Commandery No. 16, and Darns Lodge No. 4.

There were six Odd Fellows groups including Fort Harrison Lodge No. 157, Goethe Lodge No. 382, Prairie City Lodge No. 106, Terre Haute Lodge No. 51, Vigo Encampment and Thomas Lodge No. 1899.

There were four groups of Knights of Pythias: Occidental Lodge 18, Oriental Lodge 81, Section No. 115, E.R., and Terre Haute Division 3, U.R.

Independent Order of Foresters included Court Harmony 17, Court Morton 7, Court Sherwood Forest 5, and Court Terre Haute 10.

Ancient Order of United Workmen had nine lodges: Francis, Friendship (German), Harrison, Prairie City, Schiller (German), Terre Haute No. 2, Vigo No. 27, Wabash No. 1, and Martha Washington.

Other secret societies included the Circle of the Orient, Universal Brotherhood, Druids, Knights of the Golden Rule, Royal Arcanum, Improved Order of Red Men, the Gan Eden Lodge of I.O.B.B., Grand Army of the Republic, Order of Chosen Friends, American Legion of Honor, Brotherhood of Local Firemen, Royal Templars of Temperance and four lodges of the Knights of Honor.

And they think Terre Haute is socially over organized now!

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Chestnut. Also, Frederick A. Heinig, 1142 Main; Mrs. Amelia Hentschel, 669 Main; Mrs. Mary C. Humaston, 30 S. Fourth; James K. Kennedy, northeast corner Fourth and Main; Samuel Spence, 309 Walnut; William R. White, 525 Main, and Mrs. Henry Winter, 119 N. Fourth.

Terre Haute had grown from a town of 3,572 in 1850 to a city of 26,040 in 1881, the third city in the State. The mayor was Benjamin F. Havens. Other city officials were E. V. Debs, clerk; Alexander J. Mullen, deputy clerk; Hugo Duenweg, treasurer; John H. Kidd, marshal; Patrick C. Mahan, deputy marshal; John F. O'Reilly, assessor; Joseph P. O'Reilly, deputy assessor; James M. Allen, city attorney; George H. Simpson, civil engineer; William T. Byers, street commissioner; Harry Russell, chief of police; William K. Burnett, chief of fire department; Charles M. Hirzel, station house keeper, and Hamilton Elliott, market

master.

City Hall was on the northwest corner of Fourth and Walnut, where the common council met on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The Council members were, First Ward, John F. Regan and Samuel McKeen; Second Ward, W. T. Beauchamp and George E. Farrington; Third Ward, Henry P. Polk and Edwin Ellis; Fourth Ward, Jesse H. Clutter and Joseph H. Briggs; Fifth Ward, Joseph Frisz and James Grace; and Sixth Ward, David Phillips and James McCutcheon.

A century ago there were eleven newspapers in Terre Haute. They included the newly established weekly, Indiana Statesman; Saturday Evening Mail, established 1870; Saturday Evening Ledger, established 1877; the new weekly Saturday Night; the monthly School Education, established 1879; Terre Haute Banner, a German paper organized in August, 1870; the new

recalled

Memoirs of first native Terre Hautean

The distinction of being the first male white child born in Terre Haute was given William Earle whose birthday was Sept. 22, 1818.

Left an orphan at an early age, young Earle became a sailor at the age of 15. Going "down to the sea in ships" as they said in those days, he eventually fulfilled his lifelong ambition of "shipping before the mast" and became captain of his own sailing vessel.

Capt. Earle sent his memoirs of early Terre Haute to his friends here shortly before his death in 1888. They form the basis of much of this community's early recorded history.

"It was in the early part of June, 1833," Earle began his account of a

trip he made to Vincennes. "Mrs. Propst, a foster mother, sewed \$100 inside the lining of my vest. Mr. Propst instilled, or tried to instill, about as many instructions inside of my head, about how to go to Vincennes and enter an 80-acre lot of land for him. I mounted my pony and was off on a gallop, down Second Street to Main, down Main to the "Eagle and Lion" corner (southeast corner of First and Wabash now) and then I made a straight wake for Vincennes."

According to Earle, there were only one or two houses between Terre Haute and Old Terre Haute, three or four between Old Terre Haute and Honey Creek bridge. "In crossing the

mile or so of prairie just south of the creek I passed two frame houses on the left, two on the right, then came the Quaker meeting house in the neck of the woods on the left side of the road.

"Emerging from this strip of woods, the road lay along near the gentle slope to Honey Creek bottom;

past Moses Boggatt's farm on the left, then came Robert Hoggatt's farm, then his store of brick, both on the right; a little farther south on top of the rising ground was Peter Agney's grog shop.

"Nearly the whole of Honey Creek Prairie was fenced in on the line of the road. South of that prairie, the

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traveling was more solitary, the road more wild. After passing Middletown came Gordontown, a collection of seven or eight substantial new hewed-log houses, tenantless, having been deserted some years previously on account of milk sickness.

Through The Woods

"The remainder of the road to Merom was mostly through forests. I arrived at Merom shortly after noon. After dinner I went to see Merom. Merom was in its normal condition—asleep. The nearest approach to any work going on was a tailor slumbering on his bench and a dog gnawing a bone.

"I walked out to the bluff that overlooks the river, and while there a man lounged along...he pointed out to me the many advantages and beauties of Merom, dwelling especially on an eagle's nest in a dry tree on the opposite side of the river.

"I arrived at Mr. Webb's, six miles below Merom, long before sunset...had not been there long before a traveler came along from the south on horseback...We were both ready to start the next morning at the break of day...then I learned this traveler was John Tipton! Indian Agent! U.S. Senator from Indiana!

"I took breakfast at Samuel Emerson's, proprietor of the mail stage between Terre Haute and Vincennes. Stopping only for a drink of milk halfway between Mr. Emerson's and Vincennes, I was soon there. I was not long in finding the land office. I forgot which I had to go to first, register or receiver. I felt very important when I told the gentleman in

the office that I wished to enter an 80-acre lot, and repeated the town, range, section, quarter and half-quarter, and then compared my little slip of paper with his noting.

Windmills at Vincennes

"The next day after my arrival, I wandered about the town and saw much to wonder at. I saw a cotton factory, wind mills invented by a man named Coleman, that spread as much canvas as a line of battleships...the printing offices of the Vincennes Gazette and Vincennes Sun.

"On Friday morning, just as day was breaking, I mounted my pony and started on my way home, staying that night in Merom.

"Near the Friends Meeting House, I met Capt. McComb who was Col. Dowling's veteran voyageur who in 1836 had made 42 trips to New Orleans. I went to New Orleans with him in 1838 on the 44th trip.

"I stopped to have a few words with Jacob Jones at his house. I always liked Jacob because he would tell me every time I saw him that when he was assisting to build a chimney to my father's house, they came to work one morning in September, and were told that they could not work that day as a man-child had been born during the night. His name was to be William."

This baby was William Earle, whose recollections furnish the early names and places of Terre Haute and surrounding community.

Capt. Earle's account of early Terre Haute will be continued next Sunday.

More letters from Earle . . .

Some of the most interesting and informative material to be found on early Terre Haute was written in a series of letters by Capt. William Earle, first male white child born in Terre Haute on Sept. 22, 1818. These recollections were written aboard the sailing ship "Emily Morgan" in 1871 while in the South Seas.

Continuing his account of Terre Haute as he remembered it in 1823 from last week..."I think there were then about 50 houses in the town. Commencing at the south end of Water Street, half way between Oak and Swan on the west side of the street was a story-and-a-half hewed log house. On the east side of the street, half way between Swan and Poplar streets, stood a similar house; on the bank of the river in front of this house was the slaughter house.

"On the southeast corner of Water and Poplar streets, standing a few yards back from the street, stood a story-and-a-half house; one-half of it was of hewed logs, the other part of frame; in that house was born the writer, William Earle. On a line with this house, but facing on Poplar Street, was the store which my father occupied as such previous to his death in 1819. Between these two houses and the street was a pleasant little flower garden with borders of currant bushes.

"On the southwest corner of Water and Poplar was an old, dilapidated house, of round logs, smith shop near

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it. On the south side of Walnut, at the southwest alley corner, was the dwelling of Mr. George Hussey, which was part logs and part frame. On the northwest corner of Water and Walnut streets was a small log house.

"On the southeast corner lot of Water and Ohio, at the south part of the lot, was the dwelling of Dr. C.B. Modesitt, which was a frame building, two stories high, painted white with a red roof. Fronting on Ohio on the same lot was a long, low frame house sometimes used for a school house. On the northeast corner was a house similar to Dr. Modesitt's; there was a store in it, and I think it was kept by John H. Cruft. There were no other houses on Water Street.

"On the northeast corner of First and Poplar was the blacksmith shop of William Marrs. On the next lot north was the house of Ezekiel Buxton, a painter. The next house was midway between Walnut and Ohio on First Street...and was occupied by a man named Bacon, a carpenter by trade.

"On the west side of the street, nearly opposite this was McCabe's hatter shop. On the southwest corner of First and Ohio was Col. Thomas H. Blake's law office, with Dr. Clark's office in the same house. On the northwest corner was a large frame building. Isaac C. Elson had a store in the corner room and Dr. Shuler lived in the other part.

On the west side of First Street nearly opposite to Mulberry was a small frame house occupied by James Hanna, who was a chairmaker by trade. On the southeast corner of First and Mulberry was a large two-story in which lived Enoch Dole, and adjoining it on the south was the house where Matthew Redford was born October, 1818." This finished the account of First Street.

On Second Street

"Beginning at the north on Second street, the first house stood on the southeast corner of Second and Mulberry, a two-story, hewed-log house occupied by Mr. Jacques, a wheelwright. The next house was on the west side, second lot north from the corner of Main, a two-story frame. In that house was first printed the Western Register by John W. Osborn.

"On the northwest corner of Second and Main was a tavern kept by Francis Cunningham. On the northeast corner was the store of John D. Early. On the north side of the public square midway between Second and Third streets was a store kept by Messrs. Josephus and Stephen Collett, a two-story frame with a red roof. Halfway between Ohio and Walnut was the store of Maj. George W. Dewees of round logs. On the southeast corner of Second and Walnut was the dwelling and hat shop of Robert Brasher.

The jail stood on the southeast alley corner of Swan between First and Second. It was built of smoothly hewn logs, the floor being the same. Light was admitted by a small grated window and the keyhole.

On Third Street

"Commencing at Third and Poplar was Robert S. McCabe's dwelling, the farthest house south. Later it was occupied by Salmon Wright. On the opposite side of the street lived Dr. Modesitt. On the southeast corner of Third and Walnut was a frame dwelling occupied by Malcomb McFadden, but owned by Joseph and Samuel Eversol, coopers, whose shop of round logs adjoined on the south. On the east side of the street lived Miss Hannah Austin, and on the west near the alley was George Ellison's blacksmith shop.

"On the northwest corner was a two-story, white with red roof, occupied first by Mr. Barnet, later by James Farrington. The next house was midway between Cherry and Mulberry on the west side of Third, then a small frame on the southwest corner of Third and Mulberry. The last house on Third was nearly up to Eagle and was occupied by Mrs. Patty Nelson, mother of James Nelson, a former Vigo County sheriff.

On Fourth Street

"There were only two houses on Fourth Street. John Disbrow lived on the west side of Fourth and Eagle. The other house stood at Fourth and Walnut. In it lived, solitary and alone, old Jacob, a Negro, a small man with very white hair. Old Jacob brought water from the river for a great part of the town on a sled made from a fork of a tree and drawn by an old horse.

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"On Oak Street, north side, lived Mrs. Hodge, near Fourth and Oak. It was built of round logs and was out in the woods. Mr. Marrs' dwelling stood at the southwest corner of Fifth and Mulberry, a roughly hewed log house of one story. On the south side of Mulberry, a short distance west of the school house, was a large two-story house. That finishes the town as I first remember it, what was in 1823, with exception of the court house.

"The first brick houses were built in 1826-27...I think Mr. Linton's two-story on the southwest corner of Second and Main was first.

"The first two families I remember settling in Terre Haute were those of Judge Elijah Tillotson and Mr. Gosnell, but which came first I cannot say. Mr. Tillotson occupied a little shop on the west side of First between Poplar and Ohio, which had a bow window in which he hung his watches. The Gosnells, for a short time, lived in the old store on the southeast corner of Water and Poplar. In 1826-27 a great many new families came into Terre Haute."

Present day history lovers are deeply indebted to Capt. William Earle and his invaluable reminiscences which are readable, not only for the cold facts, but for the warm style in which they are written.

1900s

'Growing Up in Indiana . . . ' in early

Chester L. Larkins' booklet entitled "Growing Up In Indiana, Vol. II" contains stories and personal experiences sent to him after the release of Volume I. Larkins now lives in Kansas, but was reared in the Wabash Valley.

William Ridge, age 85 years, told how he came to Terre Haute in 1917 and became a motorman for the interurban. He had a chance to work for the street car company, but they paid only ten cents an hour, while the interurban paid 22 cents an hour. He worked for the traction company until they discontinued, then drove a city bus until retirement.

As a motorman for the interurban he worked the stock train, going to Paris, Ill., to pick up cattle, hogs or sheep at the pens and taking them to Indianapolis. Not many horses were moved this way, mainly cattle.

Ridge remembered getting a load of stock at Seventh and Hulman streets. The interurban started through the switch when something caught in the switch and turned the carload of hogs over. Hogs scattered everywhere. People kept calling saying there were hogs in their yard. They were finally all rounded up the next day.

As there were few automobiles then, people depended on the interurban for trips to the country. Ridge drove the route to Sullivan for awhile. The round trip fare was 45 cents. The line to Indianapolis was

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the best deal for the company as hauling stock was more profitable than people.

Ridge liked it more too as he got overtime. The trip would start from Paris at 4 a.m., go to Indianapolis, unload, eat lunch and back to Terre Haute. He got 14 hours for each trip — not overtime like double time or time and a half — just extra time which earned regular pay.

One time on the way to Indianapolis after it had been raining all day and night, Ridge said, they received word from the dispatcher that the Big Raccoon Creek bridge was out. The dispatcher said, "Don't move a muscle, Raccoon Creek is all washed out and the track is hanging down like a grape vine just swinging with the ties on it."

"We stayed there until 9 or 10 o'clock the next morning," Ridge said, "until a crew from Terre Haute and Indianapolis put up a skeleton bridge and fixed it so we could get over. Later they fixed it like it should

be fixed. If we had went ahead, we would all have been down in the creek, cattle and all."

"Street cars came along after the interurban," Ridge recalled. "They ran on South Seventh Street and South Third Street, East Wabash and West Terre Haute. They also had a line on Thirteenth Street. When the buses came, I had to learn to drive them because I never drove a bus in my life. After one day's training I was ready to go and drove there until I retired in 1950."

Vane Rutherford recalled experiences with his uncle's new 1917 Ford Model T touring car. "Every Sunday during the summer we would driv to nearby places such as Turkey Run, the Shades of Death, the Blue Hole, Eel River and Cataract Falls.

"Like all other cars at that time, the Ford had "Clinches" rims and tires that carried 60 lbs. of pressure. A flat tire meant first, pulling on cover-alls over our Sunday clothes,

next taking a tire tool and laboriously prying the tire off the rim of the jacked-up wheel, then patching the inner tube with a handy gadget that clamped on the patch. A spoon full of alcohol burned in the gadget vulcanized the patch.

Then with toilsome perserverance and a lot of sweat, we gradually worked the tire and the patched tube back on the rim, and finally drenched with perspiration, tired and dirty, we inflated the tire to 60 lbs. with only a hand pump. This experience was usually repeated three or four times before we got back home.

"Is it any wonder," Rutherford asked, "that the demountable rim, the balloon tire and the self-starter, were the three most valuable improvements to the automobile during the past 50 years?"

Eldon Byrer of Bicknell remembered the new Model T touring car owned by his neighbor Jimmy Fulton, who kept it shined and polished. Everyone in Bicknell rushed out to watch Mr. Fulton drive by in that wonderful contraption.

"One day," Byrer stated, "my father, Alfred Byrer, who also owned a Model T, was driving down West Fifth Street (the street they lived on at that time) and his brakes failed a block above our house. He hurriedly turned left at a corner and a rear wheel came off. The wheel continued rolling down the street, crossed a bridge over the perpetual city ditch,

and went halfway up the next hill before stopping...a distance of about three city blocks!"

Byrer recalled Model A cars and others of that period and how difficult it was to start them...no automatic starters then, all arm power, cranking and cranking until, after some creaks, groans and coughs, it finally started, usually with a lot of backfiring.

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Byrer also remembered only too well the old dirt roads, dusty and washboardy in the summer, and muddy and impassable after rains and in winter. Chuck holes then compared favorably with present day hazards. There were never too many accidents because they didn't go too fast. To make a trip without mishap was an event to be talked about and remembered.

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Historically speaking

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Area circles reached out with help

By DOROTHY J. CLARK

According to an old scrapbook of newspaper clippings loaned to this writer recently, the Order of the King's Daughters was organized in New York City on Jan. 13, 1886, by 10 devout Christian women who met in a back room of a boarding house occupied by Margaret Bottome, wife of the pastor of the old Asbury Church. She became president of the Order and was one of the editors of Ladies Home Journal.

They chose as their emblem a little silver cross with the letters I.H.N. (In His Name), and the weekly magazine was called the "Silver Cross." Ten years later the organization had a membership of over 300,000. Non-sectarian, the members could belong to any church and paid 10 cents a year to the central council.

Just when the Order came to Terre Haute is hard to say, but early in 1887, Mrs. R. S. Tennant organized a group in the Centenary M.E. Church. Its members were Nellie Towne, Estelle Ewart, Mrs. John Levering, Ella Gifford, Dora Steen, Emma Goodwin, Mrs. Church, Kate Levey, Mabel Lyon, Mabel Sanders and Effie Lewis. This circle made two comforts for the old ladies home, studied the Bible, and disbanded after a few years.

Emma Condit and Mrs. Charles Conn organized another circle in 1888-89 in the Presbyterian Church. Cornelia Beach, president, and Mayme Gwyn, secretary, headed a group of 17 members which met monthly in the homes and made comforts for the needy. They also furnished curtains and a carpet for the primary classroom.

Another circle of 10 ladies was

called the "Golden Chain." They purchased a communion set for the church, and sodded the grass plot in front. This group later united with the other group, with Nina Stunkard as president. In 1892, both circles joined the Christian Endeavor Society.

The "Gleaners" was formed in the spring of 1889. Led by Mrs. Spencer F. Ball, they included Blanche Fitch, Blanche Barnes, Virginia Somes, Grace Jenckes, Franceska and Susan Strong, Martha Royse, Helen Benbridge, Grace Arnold, Emma Gilbert, Fannie Blake, Grace Wood and Jane Walker.

This group bought an ambulance for \$250 and kept it at Hunter's Livery Stable to be sent out free to charity patients.

The "Step-by-Step Circle," interdenominational, was formed of several groups affiliated with the Episcopal Church. This group included the Mmes. Fred Longman, John Hyde, James Piety, Alferd Cummings, A. Chamber, Herman Hulman, Florence Rickerts, O. McManua, and the Misses Charlotte Longman, Martha Mancourt, Harriet Sleight, Mollie Shaw and Madge Walmsley. This circle completely furnished the charity ward at Union Hospital.

In 1896 the Rosebud Circle furnished the reception room at Union Hospital. Organized in March, 1890, the 14 little girls of one Sunday School class of St. Stephen's Church held taffy pulls and fairs to raise money for charitable projects. They were led by Rose Farrington, who became a state officer of King's Daughters. In addition to Blanche Baur, members

were Bettina Strong, Anna Royse, Alma Miller, Josephine Hamilton, Rae Walker, Maude Nisbet, Florence DaMond, Mollie Blake, Mary Gilbert, Ida Donnelly and Delphine Bindley.

They were joined later by Edna Regan, Margaret Martin, Eva Hollinger, Laura E. Cox, Florence Hager, Nadine Perryman, Clara Locke, Mildred Burt, Mrs. H. C. Gilbert, and William Penn. Bessie E. Wright was a member until she formed the circle of King's Sons.

Other local groups included the "Circle of Little Men," boys who worked with "The King's Helpers," a group of girls, to pay \$300 toward a church debt. Taking part in the minstrel show and donning white aprons to wait tables at dinners to raise money were Thomas Martin, Burch Ijams, George Hager, Morton Hayman, Newton Cox, Dan Kramer, Webb Beggs, Frank McKeen and George McCormick.

Organized in March, 1897, the King's Helpers included Paula Beauchamp, Helen Bridwell, Esther Schaal, Julia Rice, Alice Ijams, Anna Davis, Gertrude Jenkins, Eloise White, Emma and Mollie Crawford, Agnes Gray, Margaret Rood, Margo Laux and Catherine Brame.

Emmanuel Circle, formed in 1893, included Ned Blake, Stuart Jordan, Frank Regan, Leslie Helmer, Charles Stewart, Joseph Walmsley and Robert Hunter. The boys made two quilts for needy families and sent Christmas presents to the Indian schools.

The Willing Workers, organized in October, 1897, by Grace Jenckes, included Helen Johnston, Helen

Jenkins, Helen Duddleston, Anna Thomas, Margaret Ladley, Estelee Luckey, Victorine Spang and Ruth Adamson. They also helped the Indian schools and the needy in the area.

Helping the needy at holiday times were the Witnesses, formed in October, 1897, by Mrs. Lewis B. Martin. They included Anna Kolsem, Julia Voges, Edith Flood, Bessie Locke, Mamie Wittenberg, Reba Underhill and Hope and Pearl Vickroy.

The Helping Hand was organized Nov. 20, 1897, by Rose Farrington. Composed of girls ages eight to 12, they met Saturday mornings to make holders and dust clothes for sale, scrapbooks for children in hospitals and day nurseries. Members included Mary Cox, Ruth Duddleston, Madeline Davis, Noela Rodgers, Lillie Roberts, Elsa Meyer, Myrna Maier, Frances Gulick, Ruth Schaal, Helen Rice and Stella Dewees.

By 1904, Rose Farrington was the national secretary of King's Daughters and Sons. Mrs. Bottome died in 1906, the year the Indiana State Branch was formed. Miss Farrington served as state secretary; Nellie Filbeck, assistant secretary; Clara Locke, recording secretary; and Mrs. Lewis Orth, executive board.

In 1905, the state convention was held in Terre Haute at the parish house of St. Stephen's Church. Three local circles taking part were Helping Hand, In-As-Much and Step-by-Step. In 1906 a city union of all circles was formed. Miss Farrington, the daughter of George Ewing Farrington of "The Walden," was reelected state secretary at the local convention.

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BETWEEN THE LINES

THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES YOU READ ABOUT CELEBRITIES

By Josie

SHE DOES SEEM TO LIKE MEN WHO LOOK LIKE

HER... Amid persistent rumors that Chris Evert and John Lloyd's marriage is shaky, Chris has been seen four times in four months in four different places with British pop singer, blond Adam Faith.

Even John Lloyd now seems to getting a little itchy. "I have talked with Chris at great length about Adam, but I certainly wasn't aware he was coming over (to Florida, the last site of a visit). But we have a modern marriage. She has male friends and I have female ones... Besides her friendship with Adam is platonic — of the mind, not the body."

A husband wouldn't have it any other way, but all are watching the developments. And they should be noticing that Adam looks like an older, less sweet version of John, who looks very much like a male version of Chris. Psychologists could probably make something of this...



Chris Evert, John Lloyd



Judy Carne

Q. I would like some information — to whom was Burt Reynolds first married? We've been holding this contest for quite a long time and have a very long list. Mrs. Esther West, Jasonville, Ind.

A. The answer is Judy Carne, the "sock it to me" girl from the old "Laugh-In." You'll have a chance to read all about it, if you care to, because she's writing a tell-all book, "with all the positives and negatives in it. You can't be honest without the negatives," she says.

But she maintains that she does intend to be fair. "It's going to be full of fun," she explains. "The tragedies have all been told, the funny parts haven't. And Burt is very funny — the one thing we had in common was a sense of humor."

Anyway, as for Judy, after a car accident that left her with a broken neck (she's OK now) and a series of drug busts that left her blacklisted, as she calls it, she moved back to England in 1978 and has been working in theater and on the BBC. In this country, she'll be visible once again in the fall when the original "Laugh-In" episodes go into major syndication and of course on TV talk shows pushing the book.

WORST IDEA WE'VE HEARD THIS WEEK: Stephen King's scary stories are so popular that everything he's ever written has or will make it to movie form, the latest being "Cujo," "The Dead Zone" and "Firestarter" en route.

But is Broadway ready for Stephen King? The word is that producers are trying to put together a musical version of his book/movie "Carrie" — you know, the one where Sissy Spacek gets blood dumped on her head at the prom. Well, nobody thought a musical about Eva Peron would work, either...

Anything you'd like to know about prominent personalities? Write: Josie, SUNDAY WOMAN magazine, 235 E. 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. Sorry, we can't answer any letters individually.

Q. I watched "Masterpiece Theater" last year and fell in love with Bryan Brown who played Joe Harmon in "A Town Like Alice."

Alistair Cooke called him the Australian Gary Cooper, and I saw him again in "Breaker Morant."

What can you tell me about him? Luci Chamberlain, Homer, Alaska

A. He's 36, from a working-class background in the suburbs of Sydney, and has been an actor for 11 years. He went to England and worked in the very prestigious National Theater.

He got homesick, however. He went back to Australia, started working in local theater, and was spotted by a film director shortly after and put into the first of his now-dozen films.

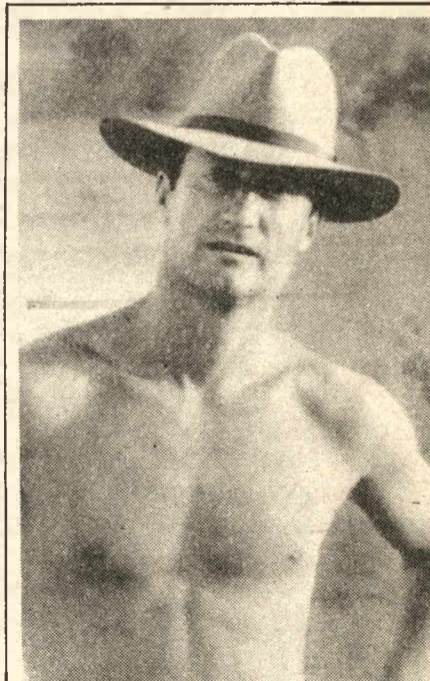
More currently, you'll see him in ABC's "The Thorn Birds" as the ruthless, opportunistic husband of the main character, Meggie Cleary, played by actress Rachel Ward. (He marries her for her money so he can buy a sheep farm).

You may see him in an Australian mini-series called "Eureka Stockade" which he's filming now, or in Paul McCartney's upcoming, largely autobiographical film, "Give My Regards to Broad Street."

"He's tall, about 6 feet, slim, hard, muscled and rugged," according to a colleague from "The Thorn Birds," "with a great sense of humor and intense eyes,

penetrating eyes. You can't help looking at those eyes, or his whole body, really. We referred to him as the Australian beefcake."

The "beefcake" also likes to ride horses, surf and has a thing for '50s rock 'n' roll, especially Elvis. And he does seem to get along better with his co-star off-screen than on-screen: He and "Meggie," Rachel Ward, plan to be married in England next month.



Bryan Brown

History (T.H.) - 1856 - JUN 5 1983

Small book is link to past

By Dorothy J. Clark

Historically speaking

One of the valuable links to Terre Haute's early history is a small, leather-bound book containing the pen and ink diagrams of the gas-piping used in the residences, stores, churches, hotels, saloons, lodge halls and other business houses in the city.

The drawings were made by George M. Early, who carried the little book around in his pocket. From it one can reconstruct a picture of what our town must have looked like two years before the first city directory was printed in 1858.

Beginning on May 29, 1856, the drawings continue through 84 pages to Aug. 18, 1857, when the book suddenly stops. Why?

George Marlyn Early was born Oct. 5, 1829. In 1855 he married Emily Wilkins, eldest daughter of Andrew Wilkins, Clerk of Vigo County. They had three children, Harry Wilkins Early, George Reynolds Early (nicknamed "Ren") and Susan Early who married Charles Trout. This writer acquired the book from the nieces of Mrs. Trout.

The first few pages of Early's gas book show his uncles's, known as "Early's Block," and built by Jacob D. Early on the northeast corner of Second and Wabash. No. 1 Early's Block was J. D. Early's Store; No. 2 was the Potwin & Bush Store; John Markle's Store occupied No. 3; the New York Store was at No. 4; No. 5 was Scudder's Saloon; and No. 6 was occupied by J. Patrick Johnson, Tailor.

Early's Block is often confused with Early's Row, a row of brick apartment houses built by Samuel S. Early at the southwest corner of Third and Chestnut streets. There were eight units with three rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. The gas-lighting diagrams for these units is on the last page of the book. The amount of pipe required was multiplied by eight, giving the total amount needed of 688 feet.

Usually the gas pipe lengths were figured in feet and inches from the meter to each gas heater and to each gas light. All dimensions of pipe were used from one-quarter, three-eighths, one-half, three quarters and one inch.

The first gas meters in residences were placed in little "cubbyholes" in the front halls. Before meters were used, the first gas company in town made a monthly charge based on the size of the tip used on the clay burner. When unscrupulous citizens learned how to change these rented tips and replace them with larger ones, the tamper-proof gas meters came into existence.

In some cases, the cost estimate was included with the sketch. For example, "Odd Fellows Hall, Sept. 5, estimate job \$42; main 28 feet, altogether 212 feet." This lodge hall was located on Wabash between Fourth and Fifth streets in 1858.

Names listed in the book include August Elser's Confectionery; Mrs. Jane E. Ruggles' Confectionery; Stewart's Hotel, northwest corner Second and Wabash; Rufus St. John's Saddlery; George Habermeyer; Louis Leveque Store; M. Doughty Saloon; S.

Heidelberger, clothier on east side of Public Square; James Carlisle Store; Thomas P. Murray; Jacob Kern, Jeweler; Manwaring & Harvey, and Mrs. Linton's residence.

On page 24 is an elaborate diagram for the B. B. Booth home on Ohio Street; J. P. Usher; Levi Warren's residence took up two pages; James Turner; Eisman's Saloon, Charles Seamon, owner; P.M. Donnelly, druggist in Levi Warren's building, southwest corner Fourth and Walnut; R. R. Whipple, also in this building, as was S. H. Potter, hardware; George Kerkhoff & Co., located in William Warren's building, as was the Stove Store.

William Warren's building, located on the south side of Wabash from Fourth Street west to the alley, had an interesting history. It seems that the stores on the north side of the 400 block on Wabash still had low ceilings, just as the Warren building had originally. Some time after 1885, it was decided to raise the second story four feet.

The contents of the building were removed, the tenants were ordered to vacate the premises, and the work began. Jack-screws were set about two feet apart under every wall, joist, beam, etc., and a man was assigned to each jack-screw. It must be remembered that labor was much cheaper in those days than it is now!

When a whistle was blown, every man would give a half-turn. The engineer kept constant check to be sure that the floor was perfectly level at all times. The jack-screws were kept constantly tight, and bricks were inserted as the building went up. This slow but sure process went on for nearly three weeks, one whistle-blowing after another, until the second story was raised four feet.

Other business and residence locations found in Mr. Early's gas book are the James Hudson China Store; Mrs. Child's Millinery & Book Store; Berlau & Gronauer; Youn America Saloon, Daniel Moninger, proprietor; City Hall, with Chambers Patterson, mayor; R.S. Cox & Son, grocers; F.F. Stark Saloon; Stanley & Co. Hat Store, and the Richard Ball Tin Shop.

Also, B. Arnold, Clothier; T.W. Watkins Saddlery; Corinthian Hall; I. Longdon's Bowling Saloon; Rice Edsall & Co., in Ludovici's Building, southwest corner Sixth and Wabash, which became the Root Store; Colored Masonic Hall; Methodist Episcopal Church; Crawford & Wood Book Bindery; and John R. Cunningham's Drug Store.

Some of the people and places will remain a mystery because there is nothing else early enough to check them against. When Mr. Early made these drawings, he did not realize that 127 years later anyone would try to puzzle out where these business houses were located. When Early made his book, he knew where they all were, and that was all that was necessary.

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Community Affairs File

VIGO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Tidbits from yellowed clippings

Is 1870s parlor game how 'hanky panky' got its name?

T: JUL 28 1985

Aged scrapbooks turn up in my office, coming from estate settlements, attic trunks and brought in by persons searching for family roots. Much local history can be gleaned from the yellowed clippings, obituaries, photos and other memorabilia pasted in the scrapbooks by long-gone ancestors.

This writer seems to spend many hours pouring over these examples of primary and secondary sources of history and genealogy at the decided risk of having a dust allergy flare-up.

According to their interest, scrapbook makers clipped for future reference the items that caught their eye in the daily and weekly newspapers and other publications. Much of it is now considered useless, outdated information, but it's still interesting — everything from the best way to clean marble, to how to prevent boots from squeaking on entering a sick room or church after the service has commenced.

My neighbors would benefit from

Historically speaking



Clark is Vigo County's official historian and formerly worked for The Terre Haute Tribune.

By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

reading the old-time instructions for washing a carriage properly. Beginning with two large sponges and two chamois, one never worked in the sun. Soaking dirt first was the secret so it would not scratch the carriage's varnish.

Passenger trains don't stop in Terre Haute any more, but one clipping advised those traveling on sleeping cars to remember that barths should be made up to travel

feet first while sleeping. It was considered by some authorities to be much better for the brain.

Even as now, newspaper editors then liked to include humorous items, like this one: "A new bustle has just come into market, patented by a Kansan, with a blow-off and escape valve. When the wearer sits down the air escapes up her spine, loosens her corset strings, and blows up her back bangs in the most fashionable pose.

"When she stands up, the action tightens the strings, expands her bustle, whistles to her dog, sticks a pin in her escort, and other things too numerous to mention."

To prevent flyblown picture frames, this household hint was given. "Boil three or four onions in a pint of water. Then with a gilding brush go over your glasses and frames and the flies will not alight on the article so washed ... it will not do the least injury to the frames."

Modern readers can get rid of

two pests if they can find (or grow their own) Black Hellebore and the herb Pennyroyal. "To destroy cockroaches, strew the roots of Black Hellebore at night and they will be found in the morning dead or dying. Black Hellebore grows in marshy grounds and may be had at the herb shops."

"To de-flea cats and dogs, throw them into a decoction of the herb Pennyroyal once a week," stated the old-fashioned hint. "You can also saturate strings in Oil of Pennyroyal and tie around their necks also." Who knows? It might do as much good as expensive flea collars, and sure would be a darned sight cheaper.

Public gatherings in earlier days must have resembled a Boy Scout troop practicing with signal flags. During the 1870s Grandpa and Grandma needed to know all the right signals for a handkerchief flirtation.

If she drew her hanky across her lips, it meant she wanted to get

acquainted. Drawing it across the eyes meant she was sorry. Dropping the hanky meant, "We will be friends."

If she let the hanky rest on her right cheek it signified "Yes," on the left cheek "No." If she twirled the hanky in her left hand it meant she wished to get rid of the young man; twirling it in the right hand said she loved another.

Folding the hanky signaled she wished to speak to her boyfriend. If she tossed it over her shoulder she was saying, "Follow me." Winding the hanky around her forefinger told him she was engaged, but winding it around her third finger told him she was married. Drawing the hanky across her forehead warned him they were being watched.

In these days of Puffs and Kleenex, the young people can't have nearly as much fun as their ancestors did. Woe betide the flirting couples if they got their

hanky signals mixed up.

Old scrapbooks tell how to remove strong, heavy, musty odors from wooden bowls. They advise making a paste of baking soda and water (not too thick) and rubbing on the bowl for a few minutes before rinsing and wiping dry.

If a maple bed headboard is dulled by fingerprints, the advice is to wash with a solution of equal parts of vinegar, mineral oil and turpentine. This solution should be shaken well and applied with a soft cloth. Then apply a coat of good furniture polish.

A cookbook published in 1872 by the ladies of the Congregational Church offered a surprising recipe for "Moonshine." One pound of sugar and 1½ pints of boiling water were boiled 'til clear and one ounce of tartaric acid added. When it was cold, it was flavored and bottled. Two tablespoons of this Moonshine along with a fourth teaspoon of soda made a nice summer drink.

Yellow Fever and other maladies

Dr. Fitch offered advice on health, long life

Wabash Valley families of the 1870s relied heavily on a family doctor book entitled "Family Physician."

The author, Dr. Samuel S. Fitch of New York City, proudly stated that three generations of his family had practiced medicine for 120 years, and that he had been consulted by about 100,000 persons suffering from every variety of human malady during the past 20 years.

Testimonial letters from grateful patients completely cured of every ailment and disease imaginable were scattered through the book. If the people believed these glowing tributes, it's no wonder they had so much faith in the book.

Dr. Fitch had a theory about "humors," internal diseases caused by bad blood. Falling hair, he believed, was caused by a humor that settled on the scalp. He believed that shampooing the head greatly relaxed the scalp and caused falling hair. He inferred that shampooing almost always injured the hair to some degree.

If readers care to try Dr. Fitch's superior tooth powder they can use his recipe. "Mix and pulverize perfectly three ounces of Peruvian bark, one-fourth ounce Gum Myrrh, half an ounce Nut Galls, half an ounce Cuttle-fish Bone, one-fourth ounce Chloride of Lime and 60 drops Oil of Bergamot." This was to be used one to three times a week.

In 1870 doctors still believed that Yellow Fever was caused by eating improper foods in a tropical climate. He cautioned his readers not "to swallow the pulp of any fruit; only swallow the juice, and spit out the pulp wholly and entirely.

"On the first show of the disease," he advised, "drink one or two quarts of strong, warm herb tea such as boneset or any of the mints. In 10 minutes or so after drinking the tea, take a lobelia emetic and vomit yourself for an hour or more. Do it most faithfully. Vomit yourself as nearly to death as you can

Historically speaking



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and not die."

The next part gets really tough. "Take an open chair, say a split cane or such open-bottomed chair, and place under it a saucerful of burning rum or alcohol. Take off all your clothing, sit on the chair, and have blankets put all around you, so as to be entirely covered except your head, but so arranged as to allow the vapor of the burning alcohol to pass all around you. Perspiration will run off you as water. Sit on this chair thus perspiring until you faint and fall off the chair.

"Let them take you up and give you a half pint of castor-oil. Now be placed in bed and covered up warmly; you will sleep some and sweat several hours, say five or six; on awakening, your oil will freely operate, and you will be perfectly well. You must lay in your bed 14 days, and take only water-gruel, not a bit of solid food. Take not the least exercise; keep close from the air during the whole 14 days. If you do not do this you will have a relapse, and must be treated exactly as at first." This last threat of repeated treatment would have kept anyone in bed.

Epidemics of Cholera Morbus and Asiatic Cholera were greatly feared. Dr. Fitch recommended that for the former, the patient should

"drink very freely of strong spearmint tea hot, with sugar or milk in it, or both, as you please. As soon as the stomach is somewhat sweetened, give a good portion of butternut bark tea, or castor-oil, along with ten drops of laudanum and one tablespoonful of either blackberry or black cherry brandy."

Fitch believed that those who lived right seldom had those diseases, but those who went to excesses in living, overdoing, and ate improper food were almost certain to bring it on. He also advised leaving the cholera district if possible for at least 12 weeks.

One section of Dr. Fitch's book listed what not to eat. It would have been simpler to list what he did approve of in the way of food. He forbade fruit, cooked or raw, tomatoes, corn, cabbage, raw vegetables of any kind, apple dumplings, shell-fish, fresh fish, smoked fish, smoked meat, bananas, sweet potatoes, nuts, pastry, hard-boiled eggs, melons, cucumbers, pickles and no meals late in the day.

He recommended that people make no experiments in their diet. He had seen whole families swept away by one lobster. He approved of chewing a little rhubarb for a physic, but did not approve of any sea voyage of long duration.

Dr. Fitch believed there were four great causes of sickness and premature deaths. First, the common cold, or checked perspiration; second, eating too much at improper times (before 2 p.m.); third, drinking too much of alcoholic liquors, wines, beer, etc., and fourth, overwork or overtasking our powers.

"All who would live long," advised Fitch, "should have occupations and a purpose in life. It is of the first importance that we should have employment, profitable and pleasant, if possible, but, at all events, pleasant — reading some, but physical exercise and labor more. Never be idle. Do something good, something useful, every day of your life."

candy bar?

Snippets from local history

Do you remember name of ham-shaped

Clark, Dorothy J

History (TH)

Ts DEC 1 1985 Community Affairs File

This writer is obliged to agree with a statement made by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft — best known for the book he authored, "Personal Memories of a Residence of Thirty Years with the Indian Tribes" — about his journey up the Maumee River and down the Wabash in 1821.

In 1838 Schoolcraft said, "I do not know that I shall live to make use of the materials I collect, or that I have the capacity to digest and employ them; but, if not, they be useful in the hands of other laborers."

Kind readers pose questions about local history and give suggestions for future columns. For example:

Does anyone know what color the lights were on the different streetcar runs? One person remembered red and white, green and white and red and green. Surely there's a knowledgeable reader who can solve this problem.

Can anyone remember the gypsy camps south of town on the Seventh Street Road where Brookside Estates is located? The report was that six or seven wagons of gypsies camped in the Oregon Church yard.

Historically speaking



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By Dorothy Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

About 1910 the Holy Rollers put up their large tent in Terre Haute and attracted a few converts along with many spectators. Where was this tent located?

After preaching and much talk about fire and brimstone, the congregation would yell in tongues and throw themselves to the ground, snorting, jumping up and wrestling with "The Spirit." Their leaders were usually persuaded to move on when the turmoil provoked violence. Now people watch the aerobic exercisers on television and get the same effect without the tent.

I collect little unimportant happenings of local history. This one concerns musicians. Where the Deming Center now stands on the southeast corner of Sixth and Cherry Streets, was formerly the site of the Congregational Church. The basement of the old church was sometimes used as the rehearsal place for orchestras. The church grounds were surrounded by a tall iron fence with double gates in front, fastened with a padlock when the church was not being used.

On one occasion a group of musicians went there and found the gates padlocked. They had the key to the church, so they decided to climb the fence. They first placed their instruments over the fence and then went over themselves.

One of them was a little old fellow with a bass fiddle. He managed to get the unwieldy fiddle over the fence all right, but when he tried to climb the tricky iron palings he lost his nerve when he reached the top, got scared and fell, right on his beloved fiddle. There was a crunch of wood and a snapping of strings. When he regained his feet and surveyed the wreckage, he moaned, "Ach, mein bass is ganz geput!"

Turkey has been much on the minds of everyone following the recent Thanksgiving Day feast, but turkey is also slang for colossal failure. Turkey actors are hopeful performers, generally a lot more optimistic than they are talented. They get together, hire a hall and perform a play on Thanksgiving Day.

Audiences are always in a good mood on Thanksgiving. Stuffed with turkey and dressing, they're easy to please. The actors in these shows were usually so bad, though, that turkey became synonymous with a flop.

How many readers remember the early candy bars? The original Hershey bar came out in 1894. Who remembers favorites like Buck Privates, Duck Lunch, Leaping Lenas and Chicken Dinners? There are regional specialties like the Goo-Goo Cluster and Cherry Humps.

What was the name of the delicious candy bar made in the shape of a ham? It was popular in this area in the 1930s. Now Snickers is supposed to be the most popular bar nationwide. Some of us recall the frozen Milky Ways at Izaak Walton Beach in the summer time. What was your favorite in the "good old days?"

Early in 1986 Halley's comet will again appear, pleasing amateur astronomers and causing a new bout of comet fever. This comet shows up once every 76 years, inspiring outbursts of predictions, doom-sayings and bizarre behavior. Surely, this time people will be more used to rockets to the moon, satellites orbiting the earth, etc., and won't be so alarmed.

The last time history's most famous comet appeared, in 1910, the Germans held a sweepstakes on the moment when Halley's would come closest to the sun. Oklahoma sheriffs arrived just in time to prevent a group calling itself "Sacred Followers" from sacrificing a virgin. Astrologers attributed the death of England's King Edward VII to Halley's influence.

Edmond Halley, a brilliant 17th-century scientist who founded modern cosmology, geophysics, oceanography, meteorology and demography, is best remembered for one accomplishment. Halley observed the comet early on the morning of Nov. 22, 1682, at his home observatory at Islington near London.

All sorts of myths and superstitions surround comets. They were believed responsible for everything from the sudden disappearance of the dinosaurs to major outbreaks of influenza.

Clipping along through history

Scrapbooks tell us the way life was

Community Affairs File

Ms MAY 18 1986

SFC File Only

Pioneer Life (WV)

Without radio or television to distract them, four generations ago our ancestors read their daily or weekly newspapers very thoroughly and then clipped for future reference the items they were particularly interested in and pasted them in scrapbooks.

In this way they preserved for future generations items of local news, obituaries, poems, funny happenings, pictures, household hints, recipes, according to their level of interest. Much is now considered useless, outdated information.

Reading old scrapbooks is entertaining if not educational. To keep flies off fresh meat, readers were advised to put the meat in muslin sacks with enough straw around it so the flies couldn't reach through. The sack was to be tied tightly so flies couldn't get in and lay eggs, then hung in a cool, dry place.

In the Wabash Valley — which was neither northern or southern but a mixture of both — pioneers had different ways to use hominy. In fact, northern people didn't appreciate it very much. "Big hominy" and "little hominy" as they are called in the South, are staple dishes and take the place of oatmeal, believed to be too heating for the climate. Big hominy, also called samp, required at least eight hours' boiling.

The pioneer method of preparing hulled corn was to put a peck of old, dry, ripe corn into a pot filled with water and a quart bag of hardwood ashes. After soaking a while it was

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boiled until the skins or hulls came off easily. The corn then was washed in cold water to get rid of the potash taste, and then boiled until the kernels were soft. Nowadays the canning factory does all the work. We just open the can.

Old time good advice on health found in old scrapbooks tells readers "not to sleep in a draft; don't go to bed with cold feet; don't eat what you don't need just to save it; don't try to get cool too quickly after exercising; don't sleep in a room without ventilation; don't stuff a cold lest you should next be obliged to starve a fever; don't sit in damp or chilly rooms without a fire; and don't try to get along without flannel underclothing in winter."

Leftovers seemed to be as much of a problem in those days as they are now — more so, because they had no freezers or modern refrigeration. One ingenious method used at the turn of the

century was to clean out the pantry and icebox, chop everything up very fine, mix it with egg, flour and butter, and form the mixture into little round cakes which were fried. Reading the list of possible ingredients makes this writer wish they had invented the garbage disposal much earlier.

Always found in old scrapbooks are clippings of recipes telling how to mix fever powders, decoctions and tinctures of bark, how to make bitters, and the belief that the juice of crabapples was good for bleary eyes.

Extremely obese people were advised to use a total vegetable diet. For a year one woman breakfasted and supped on milk and water with bread. She dined on turnips, carrots and other roots and drank water. She was pronounced thin, but undernourished.

To destroy fleas and bed bugs, the advice was to cover the floor of the room with alder leaves, gathered while the dew was still on them. One also could powder stavesacre and sprinkle it on the body and on the bed.

After the Revolutionary War, there was much migration over seas, over land, up and down rivers and over mountains. Small sailing ships with so many people crowded together caused illnesses of all kinds to be transmitted from one group to another. Poor food, unsafe water, lack of sanitary facilities, overcrowded sleeping quarters, fleas, body lice, mosquitoes and contagious diseases took their toll on our ancestors wherever they

were. Only the lucky and the hardy survived.

After reading the early doctor books and clippings in scrapbooks, it would appear the pioneers taking advice would end up worse off than they were to begin with. They would be dosed with calomel, bled of a least a pint of blood, sweated and purged with every herb decoction imaginable, but drunk as a lord with the high alcohol content of the home remedies. They certainly felt little pain, after imbibing all the port wine, brandy, whiskey and laudanum.

Inflammation of the brain could be caused by drunkenness, long exposure to the sun, grief and violent passions. Quinsey was a popular ailment in 1804. It was like a very bad sore throat, but the cure was worse than the ailment. Cold baths daily were advised and the wearing of heavy neckcloths was prohibited.

Measles, mumps, whooping cough, croup and hives were quite common. The advice included a low vegetable diet and to keep warm. Rheumatism was very common, as is arthritis today, and here again vegetables were advised, warm herb drinks and the wearing of flannels and avoiding the cold to avoid chronic sciatica and lumbago. Gout was believed to be hereditary. Acid drinks were advised for smallpox.

If readers don't enjoy reading old scrapbooks, bring them to this writer. They are grist to her mill.

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Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

Five men and an adventure

City native left interesting account of river trip

13 JUL 16 1989

The story of a Terre Haute native, Charles Monroe Reeves, who took a canoe trip with some friends a century ago on the Tippecanoe and Wabash rivers, can be told thanks to a friend who helped settle his estate in 1920.

Reeves worked on the old Terre Haute Gazette, became managing editor of the Omaha Bee, and later chief publicist for the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904. His scrapbooks connected with this tremendous job of promotion are in the Western Historical Manuscripts Library of the School of Journalism, University of Missouri.

In 1970 the college newspaper ran a three-page article with photos on the Reeves Collection. He was credited as "The Man Who Made It Possible — The Louisiana Purchase Exposition."

Lobbyist as well as publicity chief, his title was Chief of the Department of Domestic Exploitation." Reeves also wrote a novel that was never published.

All of this is ancient history, but his account of the bucolic canoe trip is still interesting to read 100 years later.

The five members of the group — Frank B. Miller, Erastus C. Miller, John Cox, John Bardsley and Reeves — left Lake Maxinkuckee late in July from Long Point for the canoe trip home.

Each man had his own canoe, bed clothes (they slept in their canoes each night), and eating utensils of knife, fork, two spoons, tin cup and tin plate. Divided among them were the cooking utensils including coffee pot, two skillets, stew pan and two small buckets.

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Coal oil was carried in a bottle with a rubber stopper, and each man carried a torch. Each canoe was furnished with a small rubber tent to pull over in case of rain and heavy dew. Mosquito netting was placed over the end of the tent to admit air.

The stove was a piece of sheet iron with folding legs. The stock of groceries was replenished each day a town was reached. A day's run ended after 5 p.m. as soon as a good campground was sighted. After supper, beds were made up with a comfort and two woolen blankets, pipes were smoked, sometimes a card game was enjoyed, and the daily log was updated.

Cox and F. B. Miller carried cameras to record the camp scenes, five dams, and the shooting of about 70 rapids. The young men would rather take this dangerous course than carry their canoes around the falls and fast-moving water. The canoes suffered little damage, and the boys had an exciting time of it.

Teamsters placed the canoes on a wagon and hauled them down to

the Tippecanoe River 3½ miles south. Estimated distance from there to Terre Haute was 300 miles.

From Marshland to Monticello the river was very crooked. The water was so clear they could see fish swimming, largely pike, perch and salmon with bass further down stream.

The scenery was magnificent a century ago with steep banks nearly a hundred feet high. Fifty miles above the junction of the Wabash and the Tippecanoe the current became much swifter.

Monterey was reached before supper time, and the supplies replenished. They finished off five chickens, two bottles of pickles, a pound of cheese, two loaves of bread. Large skeeters were sighted, but proved tiny when compared to the Wabash varieties.

In rain storms the rubber coats were worn, and the whiskey bottle passed around to keep from getting too chilled. Thunder and lightning on the wild Tippecanoe was an experience none would forget.

Winamac was the next stop, along with more rain. They found a German restaurant and ate everything in sight, including the tablecloth, according to the log. The townspeople ogled the curious tourists as they found a barber shop and got shaved before retiring for the night.

After repairing a leaky canoe, the party continued on to Pulaskville, and the next day to Buffalo. Washing white pants was done with soap, scrub brush and hanging over the deck to dry in the sun.

Buffalo's 25 residents visited the camp to see the strange travelers.

More rain hampered the run to Monticello where the Pan Handle Railroad crosses the river. The bridge was 85 feet high, the highest in Indiana. In 1873 one of the worst rail wrecks occurred there when a 23-car freight train and engine fell when the bridge collapsed.

The next stop was to be Lafayette, some 50-60 miles away, so provisions were restocked and the trip continued through swift rapids — an exciting day.

They passed the historic Tippecanoe Battle Ground where General William Henry Harrison fought the Indian tribes in 1811. Where the clear waters of the Tippecanoe joined the muddy Wabash, the boys docked their canoes and walked up Main Street with a policeman. The residents thought they were being arrested.

After supper at a restaurant, the party left Lafayette going south and ran with the boats lashed together until they reached a suitable sandbar. While some slept, others kept watch until daylight.

By noon they reached Independence, a place formerly larger than Terre Haute but gradually decaying away. Above Independence, was Black Rock, formerly an Indian trading post.

The party passed Williamsport, Covington, Perrysville, where Reeves left the party, and made Newport before stopping for the night. The next stop was Clinton, with supper on Walker's Bluff and on to Otter Creek, the last "hangout" before reaching Terre Haute and ending one of the "pleasantest" canoe trips ever taken by members of the Wabash Canoe Club.

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Vigo County Public Library
Community Affairs File

Letters of history

Passing on personal touches from the past

Ts AUG 20 1989

Letters from readers contain local history information that is impossible to get from any other source.

The late Edris Bennett told of the first jitney driver in Terre Haute, Louis Heckelsberg, who drove a Model T with storm curtains in 1917. He was very accommodating and would drive up over the sidewalk to pick up and deliver passengers in the rain.

She remembered that his residence on the south side of Washington Avenue at 24th Street was destroyed by the 1913 tornado. They attended the same school, Cottage Place School, at 21st Street and Washington, a four room, two-story structure. Hulman Street was the city line at that time.

Heckelsberg had a sister, Louise, and a younger brother, Edgar. Their teachers were William W. Archibald, Alma Wyrick who married Harry Shickel, Lena Schuhardt, Mary Alice Phillips, Julia Ryle, and the janitress Koutz.

A second jitney driver was hired by Heckelsberg, Ben Bickel, son of Capt. John Bickel, a Civil War veteran and writer. The mother was Eliza Hyler, the daughter of the man who ran the Old Inn at 25th and Wallace streets. This was reputed to be a "haunted house."

Ben's brothers and sisters included Russell Bickel, railroader; Gertrude Bickel, seamstress at Ehrmann Overall Factory; and Lou Bickel, cook at St. Anthony's Hospital.

Eliza Hyler had a brother, Jake, and a sister, Mary. His relationship to Fred Hyler who lived near Coal Creek Hill was unknown. Father

Historically speaking



By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to The Tribune-Star

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Heckelsberg ran a grocery store at 17th and Washington.

Edris remembered that in 1906 a school wagon was available, and the children went to the old Sugar Grove School, a four-room brick built in 1858.

Juanita Pence Englert wrote to me about Lake View Park as she remembered it. It was located on East Wabash about the 4300 block, a nickel streetcar ride from Seventh and Main streets downtown.

The lake was small, with two john-boats which could be used to ride around the lake. The roller-skating rink was the most popular place with music provided by a large, box-type phonograph. The rink was built around a dance pavilion.

Visitors to Lake View Park could ride a roller-coaster, an old wooden frame structure with a car racing up and down over loops of track. Another ride was called the Figure Eight, also of wooden construction and very exciting to ride for that

time.

The House of Mirrors was fun for everyone, according to Englert, and was enclosed by a high fence. The street car traveled along the north side of Wabash Avenue, and continued on to Brazil. She visited the amusement park often between 1905 and 1907.

Another letter came from Eleanor Briggs Freeman, a former resident of North Eighth Street now living in Texas. Now a grandmother, she recently entertained visiting grandchildren with "streetcars" made from shoeboxes. Windows were cut and covered with colored tissue paper. A candle was set in sand in the bottom of the box, and the string attached so yet another generation could enjoy the thrill of pulling one's own streetcar along the sidewalk after dark.

Many of the neighbors came out to watch and learn of a custom from the 1920s in Terre Haute. This writer remembers introducing several children to this craft experience and fun activity. The children enjoyed getting to stay up a little later on a summer evening. I remember an ambitious project of a double-decker streetcar which caused a minor sidewalk fire and adult supervision of candles!

O. W. Pendergast wrote to me about my column on William Overton, a Civil War doctor from Parke County, Ind. His grandmother, a widow of two months, moved from a small log cabin in Parke County to Terre Haute to make her home with her father. She was about to give birth to her sixth child, Pendergast's father.

She was attended by a "friendly old doctor" from Rockville. His name was not passed down. It's doubtful if his father even knew it. As was the custom in those days, the doctor became the godfather of the newborn boy, and the mother named him Overton William Pendergast. The writer of the letter became O. W. Jr.

The letter continues with Twelve Points history. He remembered the Swander Bank, southwest corner of 13th Street and Maple Avenue, which survived from the Teens to the 1930s when most banks failed.

The building for Unique Printed Products Company was built in 1922-23 at 2222 N. 18th St. by Pendergast Sr. The business was started on the second floor of the old Lee School Supply Company (recently razed) and moved to Twelve Points in 1924, remaining at that location until 1977 when it moved to the new Fruitridge Avenue location.

For many years, Unique employed over 50 percent of all people working in Twelve Points. During the Depression, they never missed a payroll. Unique specialized in manufacturing tags and labels sold nationwide by direct mail. In 1981, when it was merged into Standard Register Company, it was the largest independent label manufacturing concern in the country with sales approaching \$10 million, and a payroll of over 200 persons.

All this was accomplished by one man, the one who was given the name of his mother's doctor, probably out of gratitude for his free medical services.

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Community Affairs File

Boosting Terre Haute

1910 editorial touted town's economic prospects

T: OCT 15 1989 *Clark, Dorothy*

Nearly four decades ago an editorial appeared in a local newspaper entitled "Boost Terre Haute," and I'm indebted to Josephine Campbell Morris for saving the clipping all these years and sending it along to me. I quote verbatim:

"If Terre Haute were known by no other product than its building material, this city would not be unhonored in over half the greater communities of the United States. The traveller cannot stop in the fireproof hotels of this country without finding therein something to remind of Terre Haute, Ind.

"Brick and tile are products of Terre Haute that wander out with the onward march of civilization and carry the name of this commonwealth many miles from the borders of the state. Every day Vigo County turns out thousands of building bricks. They are of all types, of all sizes, and they go into the construction of all classes of buildings that are erected for permanency and strength.

"Second only to coal in its importance is the clay industry of Vigo County. West of Terre Haute, across the river, is a strata of shale that varies in thickness from 35 to 70 feet. Beneath this is a vein of fine bituminous coal. Under this vein is a deposit of fire clay that in some places reaches a thickness of 150 feet and in no place is less than 10 feet deep.

"It is estimated that in 1909 over

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15,000,000 fire proof building blocks were made from this excellent clay. Today the capacity of the plants that turn this clay to practical use have been increased one-fourth. Tomorrow they will have a still greater capacity.

"The future holds possibilities that are only measured by the demand for the product. Nothing has been found that fits the requirements of the builder so well at such a cost. This is an era of better buildings. As the forest has disappeared so has the demand for the building brick increased.

"More structures are now being constructed of brick and steel than ever before. The demand of modern construction is for this material with which Terre Haute is supplied by nature and of which there is none better than awaits development in the natural reservoirs of Vigo County.

"Between 700 and 800 men are employed in the clay industry within a radius of a few miles from Terre Haute. They make their homes in this city, they do their trading here, and the revenue from the manufacturing of clay finds its way into Terre Haute's commercial channels in ever-increasing amounts.

"The future of Vigo County's clay industries could not be brighter. The clay is here in unlimited quantities. The coal with which to manufacture it is ever at hand and always cheap, for it comes from the same shafts and there is no long haul to get it to the kilns. The demand for the product is increasing steadily, as builders the country over realize its superiority.

"Linked to the prosperity of the clay industry is the general prosperity of Terre Haute. Every shipment of building material that leaves Vigo County not only represents a source of revenue to this city, but it paves the way for shipments of other products and it calls to the mind of the far-off citizen, the garden spot of Indiana.

"Clay is just one more reason why Terre Haute is the best city in Indiana and the city with the brightest prospects."

And that's what readers were enjoying on Oct. 17, 1910. On the reverse of this clipping was railroad news from Marshall and Paris, Ill. The parents of Allen and Charles Keys and the parents of

Clifford Gill filed a suit for damages against the Big Four Railroad.

It seems the boys were in a milk wagon which was struck by a passenger train at the Main Street crossing in Paris a few weeks previously. The sum of \$10,000 damages was asked for the killing of Allen Keys, and \$15,000 damages for injuries sustained by the other boys.

Over in Marshall, Charles Hacket, 26, a section hand from Paris, was struck by a freight train and killed while he was trying to get a handcar from the Big Four track near Swango.

The section crew was on the way to the point where work was to be done and when a locomotive whistle was heard in the distance they tried to get the car from the track. There was not time, however, and the freight, coming around a sharp curve, caught them. The others jumped, but the engine struck Hacket. Formerly residents of Franklin, Ind., Hacket and his wife had lived in Paris for six months.

To prove that a policeman had a hazardous job, Albert Duty was knocked down by an automobile during his tour of duty at the downtown carnival in Paris. Hardly recovered from that shock, he was tripped up by a street car fender and slightly injured.

Fireworks displays were enjoyed every evening for a week in downtown Paris.

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Advice from yesteryear

T: DEC 31 1988

Clippings filled with ways to deal with life's miseries

When I appealed to readers to share with me their treasured old scrapbooks full of newspaper clippings of yesteryear, kind people all over the Wabash Valley responded, with all sorts of family keepsakes, curious volumes found in flea markets, antique shops and estate sales.

Faith Lovett of Hillsdale loaned me a tattered old book, without covers, entitled "Condition of Affairs in the Southern States" (pages 630 to 1,189) obviously one volume one and concerning the Minutes of the State of Mississippi Sub-Committee hearings following the Civil War and up to 1871.

The verbatim court proceedings dealt with testimony about Ku Klux Klan activities, atrocities against Negroes and all the crimes, rapes, house-burnings, hangings, lynchings, etc.

As was the case in many households a century ago, the lady of the house could find a better use for such a book. She pasted the pages full of newspaper clippings, poems, recipes, household hints, medical information, advice on caring for children, keeping house, and whatever else caught her fancy. It was difficult to decide what was the most interesting — the clippings (many from the Globe-Democrat) or the book's pages left unpasted.

An old Civil War soldier contributed his "cure" for indigestion. He advised sufferers to thoroughly mix 20 drops of peppermint oil with one ounce of bicarbonate of soda, half an ounce subnitrate bismuth, half an ounce carbonate magnesia, and one ounce sugar milk. A level teaspoon of this mixture after eating was the prescribed dosage.

An old soldier of the War of 1812 came home broken down in health from chronic diarrhea. He tried everything without relief until one day an old Indian came along and

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said he could cure him. He called for oats, picked the bad kernels out of two quarts, washed them, and then poured on two quarts of hot water and let them boil slowly for an hour. After it was strained, it was ready for use. This sure cure "healed the membranes and mucus linings of the entrails."

Remedies for the common cold ranged from seven drops of camphor mixed with a teaspoonful of sugar and then stirred into a half glass of water.

A chest cold was cured with applications of flannel cloth dipped in scalding water, sprinkled with turpentine, and "laid on as hot as can be borne."

A goiter "as big as a hen's egg" on a woman's neck was cured in six weeks by applying a neck bandage saturated with a salve made of lard and pulverized iodide of potassium.

Whooping cough was treated with chestnut leaf tea, red clover blossom tea, or the old standby made with lemon juice, flaxseed, and water boiled together and sweetened with honey.

Soda saturated with coal oil was advised for all burns.

Cancer cures included poultices made from an infusion of violet leaves; a salve made from common sheep sorrel leaves bruised in fresh

butter on a pewter plate; chloride of zinc and blood root paste; strong salt brine; a poultice made from figs boiled in new milk; and applications of just sweet oil.

To concoct another cancer cure, a bushel of red oak bark was burned into ashes and then boiled awhile to strain out the lye before being made into a plaster. This was followed by plasters of pine tar, and a healing salve of elder bark and Balm of Gilead buds, mixed with a bit of rosin and mutton tallow.

Sprinkled through the old book's pages were quilt block patterns, lace patterns, and ideas on how to grow dahlias and rambler roses, and how to keep weeds out of a gravel walk by using 20 pounds blue vitriol dissolved in 45-50 gallons of water.

To banish insects, the housewife was advised to dissolve a pound of common alum in two quarts hot water. If applied while hot to pantry and cupboard shelves, closets or any other infested places, it was guaranteed to kill ants, bedbugs, cockroaches, spiders, etc.

An excellent furniture polish was made at home of equal parts of linseed-oil, turpentine and vinegar. The housewife was advised to clean the furniture before applying the polish with a woolen cloth, then rub it in with a fresh cloth and hard friction. It left a pleasant odor, "a fragrance very like ripe watermelon."

Grass stains on the children's white clothes could be removed if the spots were first rubbed thoroughly with soft soap and baking powder, let stand 20 minutes, then laundered and hung to dry in the hot sun.

Since most of the people reading this advice before the turn of the century were farmers, some of the clippings told what to do with sick pigs, warts on cow teats, and how to cope with chickens suffering

from cholera, the gapes, and mites.

A poem entitled "Rhyming Presidents" ended with Theodore Roosevelt which helped date the clippings from Parke County newspapers. The obituaries of Elmer A. Heath (1867-1904) and Benjamin E. McElwee (1867-1901) were more recent clippings.

I enjoyed reading Longfellow's "The Wreck of the Hesperus," one of Mother's favorite poems which she was required to commit to memory in school days. Another was William Cullen Bryant's poem, "The Death of the Flowers." No one seems to remember his title, but they can recall the first stanza: "The melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year, Of wailing winds, and naked woods, and meadows brown and sere."

Included in this scrapbook were the usual songs, sermons, inspirational poetry, advice for happy marriages, Bible queries and religious poems.

Rules for a long life were set down by James Sawyer, M.D. They included getting eight hours sleep, with the bedroom windows open all night and a mat at the bedroom door. The bedstead was not to be placed against the wall.

The morning bath was to be body temperature, not cold, and exercise before breakfast was allowed. He warned adults not to drink milk, eat little meat, and see that it was well-cooked.

People were advised to eat plenty of fat, to feed the cells which destroy disease germs. They were to avoid intoxicants which destroy those cells.

Exercise daily in the open air, and live in the country if you can. Watch the three Ds — drinking water, damp and drains. Have a change of occupation. Take frequent and short holidays. And keep your temper. Good advice!

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Diary of Miss Nettie — 1868-1870

A glimpse at life through the eyes of a young woman

Miss Nettie, a local schoolmarm, had been teaching a year before she began keeping a diary on New Year's Day, 1868. Her family needed the money she was earning. Her mother was staying at Grandma's, her brother had died recently, and her father "came to see her when he could."

Miss Nettie boarded at Mrs. Anderson's. Entries in her diary spoke of fellow boarders who came and went. Annie Baker was caught reading the diary, and "words" were passed. Baker's feelings were hurt when she read what the diarist had to say about her. Miss Nettie had a sharp pencil and opinions about everyone she met.

Skimming over the poetry and page after page of her dreams of a hero who must be "tall, dark-haired, dark-eyed, intelligent and pleasing in his manner," she obviously thought a wealthy husband might be the solution to all her problems. She had met very few men in Terre Haute who came up to her standards.

According to the diary, a popular young lady was always in demand for social occasions here in 1868. She mentions spending an evening with the Brasher family, with Mrs. Jeffrey who was the sister of Elisha Havens, one of her suitors, and attending services at various churches in town.

One Sunday she attended morning church at Baptist Chapel to hear the Rev. Stimson. At 3 p.m., she heard the Rev. Cure at "our

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church in Pence's Hall with a man named Hollowell accompanying her home, and then evening church with Elisha Havens where she met a man named Geddes.

Miss Nettie entertained guests in the sitting room of the boarding house. She kept busy taking piano lessons, needlework, and much letter writing to Cousin Lizzie, John, Charles Hendrickson who went to Cincinnati to attend lectures, and Fred R. Landon of Bushnell. Always on the lookout for a wealthy husband, she explored the possibility of a man named Young who came to live at the boarding house. A widower from New York with two teen-age children and reportedly quite wealthy, he was looking for a wife.

Another new boarder, a man named Carroll from Baltimore, reminded her of her Uncle Mack. Rumor had it that yet another new

boarder, a young lawyer named Joab, was coming to live in the house.

In February she contrasted the noisy revival at Asbury Chapel with the "dry old meetings at Institute where one hears nothing but methos and plan from morning to night." George Lewis took her to hear the orphans sing at Congregational Church and to hear Brother McCullough preach at the Christian Church.

Although she was unhappy with her chosen profession of school teaching, Miss Nettie did remark that her school was pleasant, that Miss Loyd and Mr. Harper, the singing teacher, were very nice people, but that Mr. Carroll was allowed to visit the school in "an intoxicated condition."

Young lawyer Joab arrived Feb. 9. Miss Nettie described him as "very handsome, about 35, tall, dark hair, heavy beard and fine black eyes ... we seem to understand each other ... he has considerable property and his father is very wealthy."

Joab began to court the schoolmarm by taking her to church, to the Panorama, lectures, and even on long walks to the cemetery, coming back by way of the railroad bridge.

There was a mild flirtation with Samuel C. Davis, nephew of the deceased Sen. John G. Davis, and cousin of prominent local lawyer William Mack, but Davis chose to

court Annie Baker instead.

During summer vacation, Miss Nettie went to Bowling Green to visit her cousin Lizzie Pinchley. In the fall, she taught at Evansville, but managed some visits to Terre Haute. M.M. Joab took the train down to Evansville to see her.

By Feb. 21, 1869, she admitted to being definitely in love with him, and the next month they were engaged with a ring inscribed "M to N-Mar. '69" and on her 21st birthday June 10, she tells her diary she hopes she will be Mrs. Joab before her next birthday. Her diary is neglected until Oct. 17, 1870, when she writes, "for 10 months I have been the loved and loving wife of M.M. Joab."

Poems typical of the 1870s about home and love were included in the diary. Then Mrs. Nettie begins her listing of possible names for babies — names like Kellogg, Bennett, Balknap, Sherman, Lee, Hartwell and Halstead.

Also, Lindley, Russell, Hugh, Howard, Edgerton, Canterbury, Glynden, Warren and Leland. In case the baby was a girl (heaven forbid!), she listed the possible names of Lillian, Bertha, Ethel, Edith and Enid.

The remaining few pages of the diary are undated. They contain household accounts, expenses for linens, groceries, logs of ribbon, etc. That's the trouble with diaries. They never tell the whole story.

Clippings full of history

Past comes back to life in musty documents

Any historian worth her footnotes knows that any important issue raises many questions, some of them obvious, some of them nitpicking, and all of them false.

A bad historian picks the wrong ones and wastes time researching the useless. Some historians will try to answer all of them and spend time doing backgrounds and stating obvious conclusions.

A good historian looks at the issue and does nothing while he (or she) sits and thinks and tries to look for significant questions to answer all the rest.

Historians lose sleep over documents they believe are precious. I've watched people burn the contents of trunks and boxes. Family, friends, estate settlers get worn out sorting through the deceased's accumulation of a lifetime.

Burning sacred primary source material happens all the time. Sometimes through ignorance, lack of time, a need to complete a monumental task, and a what-the-hell attitude that takes over and strikes the match that burns the family Bible (who wants it?), the Civil War letters, diaries, journals, family business records, photographs (mostly unidentified), and county and town histories of people, places and events.

Newspapers of any age usually are available on microfilm in county and state libraries. People should check with them to be sure they're on file. A bonfire out behind the property or in the fireplace

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removes items from future research in a big hurry.

One local historian said history was "the sayings and doings and surroundings of individuals; their rivalries, and quarrels, and amusements, and witticisms, and sarcasms; their mechanical and professional pursuits; their erection of houses and fulling mills and grist mills and sawmills ... their births and marriages and deaths; their removal to other localities, and how they prospered, and what descendants they left ..."

A musty old leatherbound book rescued from a yard sale in Parke County was stamped with "Indiana School Library." This was one volume of two volumes of "Memoirs of Benjamin Franklin, Written By Himself" and published in 1854 in New York.

What was interesting on the frontispiece of this worn-out book

was the handwritten inscription: "Sugar Creek Township," Mr. and Mrs. Martin's children: Anna, Addis, Jim, Charlie, Sam and Ransom. There just might be someone researching the Martin family tree who would rejoice at finding the family names and the township of residence.

In another old book found at a sale was the handwritten note: "A hollow is a narrow valley surrounded by hills so high that sunshine is piped in in the morning and moonshine is piped out at night."

Yellowed newspaper clippings in old books are frequently much more interesting than the out-of-date text. The book's owner must have thought so.

"The Riverside Woolen Mill was opened in 1854 by G. F. Ellis and operated until about 1890, when the property was sold after his death. The machinery began to turn again in May 1890, with a force of 75 employees.

"On the corner of First and Walnut streets, this mill produced 400,000 pounds of jeans, flannel, blankets and yarns.

"Paul Dresser's father, John Paul Dreiser, was employed by Ellis as a wool sorter at his Terre Haute Woolen Factory located there in 1858. An expert sorter, Dreiser's hands were said to have been unusually soft and smooth due to the constant contact with lanolin in the natural wool.

"The woolen factory of Gray &

Taylor, located in Turman Township, west of Graysville in Sullivan County, was refitted with new machinery by Ellis and opened the last of May 1863.

"J.M. Jewett, E.D. Jewett, and Dreiser became partners in the Jewett Brothers Sullivan Woolen Mills. This firm dissolved April 15, 1869, when Dreiser withdrew from the business.

"About June 1, 1870, Dreiser became the proprietor of the Sullivan Woolen Mills with the financial support of Chauncey Rose. Dreiser was not a business man, however, and a new owner took over in February 1871."

Another clipping told of the toll-keeper, John H. Birt, who lived in a little house on the Clinton side of the Wabash River bridge and controlled the gates which closed the end of the bridge on that side.

In addition to acting as toll-keeper, Birt had a shoe shop and made and repaired shoes while waiting for traffic to cross the bridge. His family had many relics of the old toll bridge including the cash box used to collect toll fees.

This bridge was built in 1857 and lasted 42 years. River traffic had declined greatly by the late 1890s. A clipping of 1902 gives information about the interurban line to be built between Terre Haute and Clinton the next spring after negotiations for the right of way were finalized.

Old clippings are full of local history.

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From A to Z

Reid details 1915 Terre Haute business, life

Is SEP 22 1991

Back in 1915, J.A. Reid, bookmaker, published a brochure titled "Terre Haute Today," an illustrated story of "a famous city of Western Indiana, its fine opportunities for more big business, and what's what, and who's who in its present life."

Reid's publication of 100 pages of text and photographs shows what our town, its buildings, and its people looked like some 76 years ago at the beginning of World War I.

In the foreword he states: "Terre Haute, Ind., aspiring, ambitious and vigorous in 1915, a city of nearly 75,000 people, is one of the largest towns in this great Mid-Western State. It has the advantage in traffic, trade and transportation of eight great transcontinental railroads reaching, with their connections, to the remotest corner of the continent, and four thoroughly-equipped interurban trolley lines giving almost ceaseless service to more than three-fourths of a million thrifty Americans, whose homes are within two hours run of this far-famed city 'On the Banks of the Wabash.'"

Reid listed the educational offerings of Terre Haute with its more than 12,000 pupils in public schools, Indiana State Normal School, Rose Polytechnic Institute, its private, parochial and other technical, classical and business schools and colleges, and the wide-

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ly known St. Mary-of-the-Woods Academy for Girls across the Wabash River.

What was manufactured in Terre Haute in 1915? Listed alphabetically, here are a few of the products: architectural iron, artificial stone, axle grease, artificial limbs, awnings, alcohol, automotive parts, baking powder, baskets, blackboards, boats, boots and shoes, wooden and paper boxes, brass castings, paving and building bricks, bread, bedsprings, barrels, beer, blank books, boilers, all kinds of bottles, brooms, beef and pork packing, buggies and carriages, railway cars and passenger coaches, all kinds of canned goods.

Also, malleable, steel and iron castings, caskets, cigars, clothing, confectionary, crucible steel, gray iron castings, cement blocks, cloaks, coal mining machinery, concrete block machines, crackers,

crushed stone, dies, doors, driven wells, dynamos, drugs, gasoline engines, enameled ware, extracts, electrical machinery, feed, fencing, flour, galvanized iron products, gas fixtures, auto gears, handles, harness, hominy, ice cream and ice.

In addition, locomotives, machinery, medicine, mattresses, mineral water, mirrors, novelty goods, nursery products, overalls, paper, porch furniture, picture frames, roofing, rubber stamps, sash, sewer pipe, shirts, stokers, scales, shafting, shoes, sleds, structural iron, drain and building tile, transmissions, trunks, wagons, coaster wagons, wine, auto and buggy wheels, and whiskey.

In 1915, Terre Haute was the largest building-and-loan city in Indiana, with one exception. Of the 340 in the state, Terre Haute had 22. It was the largest consumer of corn in the state and the center of the bottle glass industry.

The largest wholesale grocery here sold \$8.5 million worth of goods in 1915, and Terre Haute was the second largest U.S. revenue district.

The Chamber of Commerce in 1915 was credited with preventing a disastrous street railway strike, secured a miner's train on one railroad and bettered the service on another.

Chamber members brought a large industry to town, the International Money Machine Co. They assisted in securing Davis

Greenhouse Co. They assisted in organizing vocational school work here under the new law.

Terre Haute tax duplicates in 1915 showed that 9,085 men (21-50 years of age) were paying poll tax. An average of 30,000 persons were carried daily on the city street railway lines.

The Terre Haute Post Office records showed that during the month of October 1913, the city gained 1,000 in population.

In the summer of 1914, fewer than 40 houses were vacant out of 15,000 in town, and there were no vacant store rooms. An average of 124 freight trains arrived and left town every 24 hours, with an average of 3,765 cars daily.

The Commercial Distilling Co.'s plant here was the largest distillery in the United States and had a daily capacity of 60,000 gallons. Terre Haute Brewing Co. made 400,000 barrels of beer per year.

Terre Haute had three great glass bottle factories making a daily average of 525,000 glass bottles.

A photo in Reid's publication shows a very bare campus for the newly opened Garfield High School and students dressed in 1915 fashions. The girls wore dresses to the ankle, most with dark skirts, white middie blouses and black ties. The fellows wore plus-fours or knickers and straw hats.

How Terre Haute has changed since 1915!

Terre Haute in 1860

Minister recalls city as beautiful place to live

Ts FEB 09 1992
In 1914, the reminiscences of Dr. Lyman Abbott, pastor of the Congregational Church in Terre Haute, were published in "Outlook" magazine.

He described Terre Haute in 1860 as a town of 18,000 inhabitants, with two Methodist churches, one Baptist, one Episcopal, two Presbyterian (one of them old school, the other new school), a Campbellite, a Universalist, a German Lutheran, a Roman Catholic, and his own Congregational church.

Terre Haute also had a school for the higher education of girls, known as a Female College, and a State Normal School (but it could have been placed here later than 1860). The Polytechnic was a later creation.

Already in 1860, the city was something of a railroad center. Abbott, in a letter to his in-laws, wrote about his arrival here. "Terre Haute," he said, "is a very beautiful town. A German, Irish immigration was filled up a part of this town, as of every one in the West. But that which is occupied by the finer residences is very beautiful. The homes are surrounded by grounds and by fruit trees, many of them by beautiful gardens.

"The best people of the city were mostly from the middle states, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York,

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Delaware and Maryland," he continued. "A number, also, from Kentucky. There were two New England families in my congregation, and, so far as I know, they were the only ones in the town.

"Yankee was distinctly a term of opprobrium. It did not take my wife long to find this out. We speedily came to regard ourselves as coming, not from Massachusetts, but from New York."

On the subject of house hunting, Abbott had this to say: "People here go to housekeeping on so small a scale that very few board, or are prepared to receive boarders. As soon as a man has saved enough to buy a little lot of ground, he builds the smallest thing for a house that he can live in, and only adds to it upon the greatest necessity.

"Those who are abundantly sup-

plied with the 'needful' have fine houses and gardens, but they do not like to take boarders, and will not let (rent) houses, except such as are built in the small way of this country, especially for renting."

A paragraph about marketing is interesting. He writes of buying: "A small piece of beefsteak for a dime; three bunches of beets (five in each) for a dime; two quarts of string beans for a dime; two pounds of butter, two dimes; two spring chickens, alive, two dimes; three quarts raspberries, three dimes."

There was a public market in those days, too, as he writes: "This is the first year market has been open every morning, but cannot get meat elsewhere, and in the hot weather people do not like to get meat to keep over a day.

"I should guess there are some 15 or 20 meat stalls inside the market," he explained. "The countrymen with butter, eggs, fruit and vegetables stand outside."

The first church of the Congregationalists was built beyond the city limits at Sixth and Cherry streets. Revival after revival brought up the membership under the ministry of the Rev. Merrick A. Jewett. However, in 1853, a tornado blew over the church. It was rebuilt, finally, and in 1859, Jewett resigned, giving his shat-

tered nervous system as the reason. It was accepted by a majority of two.

Lyman Abbott succeeded him April 1, 1860. He belonged to a distinguished family, was a son of John Jacob Abbott, author, and the nephew of J.S.C. Abbott, the historian.

Abbott resigned in 1865 to be followed by Rev. E.F. Howe who stayed 11 years. Howe was responsible for breaking up a cherished custom. In those days, the organ was in the west end of the church, behind the congregation, and when the people rose to sing they turned and faced the music.

Like most old customs it was hard to break, and a decisive vote could not be obtained. It was settled by advising each person to face the way he thought best. For several Sundays the congregation stared in each others' faces and then faced the pulpit.

Abbott is mentioned in the new publication of the Indiana Historical Society, "Indiana: A New Historical Guide," and I quote: "Dr. Lyman Abbott, clergyman, author, and editor of 'The Outlook' magazine, held forth at the First Congregational Church from 1860 to 1865."

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Community Affairs File

Historian recalls city's early days

TS MAY 17 1992

Indiana historian John B. Dillon spoke at one of the early reunions of the Old Settlers' Association in Terre Haute and said: "While I was listening to the address of Col. Thompson I thought of the fact that when some of the persons here present were younger, there were no settlements at all."

Thompson told the audience there was one old lady there whom he would like to see on the platform. He referred to Mrs. Sallie Brokaw, who was born at Vincennes. Her mother came to the Wabash Valley with General Harrison in 1800.

Capt. T.C. Buntin then ascended the platform and addressed the audience. He said he regretted the absence of his sister, a spritely little widow, residing at Indianapolis, who was born at Vincennes in 1776. He had planned to exhibit her as a well-preserved relic from the last century.

His mother was a Shannon, the daughter of an adventurous Irishman. The grandfather left the settlement, went west, and was never heard of afterwards. The Indians were friendly with the French, but massacred and robbed all others.

His grandmother, Mrs. Shannon, was home with three small children (two older children being away) when a party of Indians attacked the cabin and killed her and the baby. His mother, a child

Historically speaking



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Special to The Tribune-Star

of 7, tried to escape with a younger sister. A tomahawk struck and killed the other sister.

His mother had, French fashion, a blue cloth tied around her head, and at this juncture called out, "Oh, mon Dieu!" (Oh, my God!). The blue cloth and the French exclamation saved her life because the Indians believed she was a French child. Thus, she was left alone, and during the day plodded along through the dreary country to find shelter and food.

The French refused her admission and let her batter their doors, believing any kindness shown to the child would be avenged by the Indians should they discover the truth. At last she was taken in and cared for by a gentleman with whom she lived till her 15th year when she met and married Capt. Buntin. Such were the trials of the speaker's mother.

He concluded by saying he was 60 years old, and always had resided here and thanked God for it.

Thompson also talked about the difference between the manner of early settlement in this continent and that of the old world countries. In ancient times people moved in mass conquering weaker tribes. Here, the early settlers came from all parts of the world and almost every section in the United States was represented.

He reminded those present that there was mail only once a week until the government decided to send it out with boys who rode horseback 10 miles with relays of horses. Later, there was a stage line. Then we got the idea that Terre Haute amounted to something and we set about to devise a scheme to advance her interests, he said.

After the town had been incorporated, its charter was amended several times, and finally it became a city. In 1859, the city government consisted of Chambers Y. Patterson, mayor; Ezra Read, Joe Blake, Samuel Conner and A.O. Hough, councilmen for one-year terms; John S. Beach, Ralph Tousey, C.N. Collamer, Charles Peddle, councilmen for two year terms; John S. Edmunds, treasurer; C.M. Crooks, marshal; H.D. Milns, street commissioner;

Isaac M. Dawson, assessor; B.E. Ebbitt, city engineer.

There were four justices of the peace serving the township: Lambert Duy, Zenas Smith, Warren Harper and John Sayre. The township trustee was Thomas Burton, and the treasurer was David Hartsock. The board of health consisted of Drs. Helm, Young and Thompson.

During the 1850s, Terre Haute had its greatest advance in commerce, industry and transportation, and it was suffering with growing pains. Local business was centered around the public square. Industry was confined to small affairs that competed with the home manufacturer while transportation still was in the river, canal and stagecoach era.

The Wabash Express was published in Terre Haute in 1841. The first publication had for its motto the last words of President William Henry Harrison: "I wish you to understand the true principles of the government — I wish them carried out — I ask nothing more."

That same year, the National Road became almost impassable. The mail from Indianapolis would reach Terre Haute about midnight. It took 27 hours traveling 70 miles.

This confirms my theory that there is nothing new under the sun, just different people doing it!

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Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Old settlers told of early landowners

One man offered whiskey as payment for land parcel

When the Old Settlers' Association met in 1875, old Martin Adams was so feeble he was obliged to sit down to tell of his early memories.

He had been with Joseph Liston when Liston plowed the first furrow in Harrison prairie. Liston had died a month before the settler's get-together.

Adams was born in Kentucky, on Salt River, and came to Indiana in 1809. He became acquainted with the Listons and others on Curry's prairie. Hesitating to risk the Indians, he came to the Terre Haute prairies, even though Gen. Harrison's daily couriers warned of the danger.

The families had three wagons, and planted 80 acres in corn. He told how Joseph Liston used to brag about plowing that first furrow. The cornfield was about three miles north of where Terre Haute first was platted.

There were two villages of Miami Indians, according to Adams, right where the city now stands. They were friendly, but warned of danger if the Shawnees should come.

There was an alarm one night. The Indians captured a surveyor and kept him all night. They caused an alarm when they warned that the surveyor could go no further north. The difference was settled, and things became quiet. The surveyor was here between April and June of that year.

Historically speaking



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Following Adams' talk, the elderly hosts exhibited old-time hospitality and spread a feast. Hungry newspapermen were remembered by Col. Hudson and Chauncey Rose, and the speakers of the day were made welcome at several other tables. All was peace, happiness and joy due to the "no liquor allowed" ruling. No bad characters were attracted.

After the recess, Capt. Potter called the people again by rapping with a knife and plate which answered very well for a gong. The choir sang "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Uncle Jimmy Carr was introduced, now 84 years old, from Parke County. He had come here in 1816 when there were only three families north of Turman's Creek. He went to Raccoon Creek on Nov. 16. There was no Vigo County and no state of Indiana as yet.

A few families located on Otter Creek prairie. Congress land was \$2 per acre, and to enter land, a man had to take a quarter section. Adams arrived here with only a dollar in his pocket, and had to work to redeem his land. He offered to pay his ferriage in whiskey.

After the laughter died down, Col. R.W. Thompson asked: "Was whiskey legal tender then?" This caused more hilarity, and Col. Blackburn observed the old folks had their weaknesses.

One old gentleman (not identified by the newspaper reporters) told how he had been blessed with 12 children, all of whom reached maturity, except one. He had 61 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and a total family of 103. This caused more laughter and remarks of "He should have a pension," and another voice "and your wife, too." It was a happy occasion.

Samuel Sparks was introduced as one of the oldest settlers in the county, having cultivated a crop here in 1812. Speaking in a loud, clear voice at the age of almost 90, he told that he was born in 1786 some eight miles from Louisville. His father had much trouble with the Indians. One night seven horses were stolen.

Sparks described the pursuit of the Indians, the theft of seven more horses, the reinforcements of the

pursuing party, the attack in the night, the death of seven Indians, and the recapture of the 14 horses, with 14 guns.

Sparks told of the animal skins the pioneers used to wear, their cedar bowls called "porridgers," wooden dishes and forks. He told of journeying with his father, who had been a trader, through the wild country of the surrounding states. Coming here in 1812 with a "ranger," they bought land from Mr. Ross.

Sparks had been preaching 40 years, and had established half a dozen Baptist churches, but had become old, and left the work to others.

When Samuel Barnes Gookins was called on to speak he warned that the old settlers must be careful how they open these ancient spigots for it is much easier to set the pent-up waters aflow than to stop them.

Gookins believed "ours was the second family that came to the Wabash Valley by the northern route. The Watkins family, some of whom now live (1875) in Otter Creek Township, preceded us in 1822, and the McCullough family of Sugar Creek Township followed us in 1824."

Next week's column will give Gookins' story of how his family arrived here in 1821.

Roll call shows residents of 1875

Today's column deals with the 1875 roll call of the Old Settlers' Association meeting. Many of the people took time to at least give their name, age, birthplace, and how long they had lived in Vigo County. Others provided more information, of course, but we'll use the brief ones first.

John Ray, born Ohio, 74 years old, here 67 years.

A.W. Sheets, born Vincennes, 73 years old, here 65 years.

J.A. Littlejohn, born Kentucky, age 61, here 46 years.

William Peppers, born Ohio, age 70, here 52 years.

Thomas A. Reed, born Ohio, age 71, here 52 years.

James M. Sandford, born New York, age 65, here 40 years.

William H. Chadwick, born Vermont, 71-year-old carpenter, here 40 years.

David W. Rankin, born Pennsylvania, age 74, here 50 years.

T.C. Buntin, born Vincennes, age 70, here 40 years, and president of the Terre Haute Savings Bank.

Joseph O. Jones, born New York, age 71, here 69 years.

Elisha Sibley, born New York, age 71, here 69 years.

Jesse Lee Taylor, born Virginia, age 72, here 53 years.

Benjamin F. Havens, born Indiana, age 46, here 18 years.

Samuel C. Preston, born Putnam County, age 39, here 14 years.

John A. Hall, farmer, age 74, in Indiana 55 years.

Mrs. Bishop, widow of Cyrus W., age 60, here 38 years.

Mrs. M.M. Riddle, age 46,

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here 20 years.

Peter Malcolm, farmer, age 77, here 44 years.

James W. Smith, farmer, age 75, here 64 years.

H.L. Siner, farmer, age 73, here 63 years.

George E. Hedges, carpenter, age 56, here 45 years.

Peter Lyons, farmer, age 72, here 55 years.

William Huffman, age 85, here 66 years.

William Clark, barber, age 65, here 56 years.

Charles C. Neff, contractor, age 72, here 50 years.

Harvey Evans, farmer, age 67, here 66 years.

Mrs. Alice Fischer, age 40, here 25 years.

Alfred Pegg, farmer, age 64, here 47 years.

Mrs. Elizabeth N. Buckingham, age 69, here 45 years.

William Gray, farmer, age 63, here 36 years.

F.H. Spicer, tailor, age 62, here 48 years.

Charles Taylor, age 55, here 52 years.

Joseph Riner, carpenter, age 58, here 34 years.

Griffith Gray, coal dealer, age 56, here 44 years.

J.E. Stockton, saddler, age 63, here 21 years.

Mrs. Catherine Mann, widow, here 54 years.

Theodore Hulman Sr., farmer, here 45 years.

Mrs. M.P. Pounds, age 78, here 47 years.

David R. Rippetoe, farmer, age 77, here 48 years.

Mrs. Louisiana Liston, age 80, here 59 years.

Samuel H. Thompson, age 72, here 35 years.

Charles T. Noble, age 85, here 62 years.

Henry Ross, age 84, here 61 years.

Mrs. Lucy C. Wonner, age 59, here 49 years.

Mrs. Eliza Warren, no information given.

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Lee, age 68, here 55 years.

Thomas E. Barnes, farmer, age 74, here 27 years.

Mrs. S. Barnes, age 62, here 27 years.

Joseph C. Dale, born 1821, Butler County, Ohio, moved to Terre Haute 1822, engaged in livery business; moved to Mattoon, Ill.

Mrs. Isaac Ball, nee Caroline Taylor, born 1831 on Third Street, married 1850, **Isaac Ball**, undertaker.

Samuel Young, born 1827, Vigo County, solicitor.

Jeremiah Beal, born 1807 in Loudoun County, Va., came to Parke County 1829 and to Vigo County 1857, retired farmer.

Leander Davis, born 1834, Clermont County, Ohio, to Nevins Township, Vigo County, 1836, farmer (1875) near Cloverland, Clay County.

Jno. W. Douglass, born 1818, Lebanon County, Pa., raised Frederick County, Va., here 1841, auctioneer in Terre Haute.

William G. Jenckes, born 1836, Lost Creek Township, farmer.

James M. Turner, born 1836, Spencer County, Ky., here 1837, father was Jno. W. Turner, minister.

Wilson Naylor, born 1824, Adams County, Ohio; to Indiana age 3. Family settled in Vermillion County, to Vigo 1864, merchant; 1875 in charge of Naylor Opera House.

Charles M. Warren, born 1840, Terre Haute, banker, grandson of Dr. Charles Modesitt, son of Chauncey Warren, old settler.

Samuel T. Reese, born 1824, Vigo County, lumberman.

Henry T. Rockwell, born 1815, Tioga County, N.Y., to Indiana 1820; raised in Parke County, in Vigo County since 1835, oculist in Terre Haute.

Perry S. Westfall, born 1834 at Roseville, Parke County, here 1840, worked on Express for Colonel Hudson, became editor of Saturday Evening Mail.

John B. Tolbert, born 1843 in Terre Haute, city clerk for two terms, accountant, resides in Terre Haute.

TS AUG 16 1992

Continued: Old Settlers roll call

The roll call of those attending the Old Settlers' Association meeting in 1875 is continued from last week.

Charles B. Brokaw, born 1830 in Vincennes, here 1856, worked with his brother, **George Brokaw**, in the carpet business.

G. Foster Smith, born in 1824 in Vincennes, came here in 1842 and retired as one of the leading stove dealers.

Benjamin F. Rogers, born 1832 in Nelson County, Ky., came to Indiana 1839, settled in Sullivan County, then to Vigo County in 1840, farmer.

Wesley H. Hull, born 1824, Sullivan County, came here 1829, farmer.

Robert A. Gilcrease, born 1820, Washington County, Ind., here 1882, settled in Honey Creek Township, farmer.

E. Duncan Jewett, born in the United States, age 46, merchant.

Eli B. Hamilton, age 41.

Charles W. Williams, age 30, clerk, Terre Haute Gas Co.

John W. Smith, age 58, Mexican War veteran.

Wiley Black, age 53, farmer.

John B. Goodman, age 58, farmer.

Caleb Jackson, age 62, farmer.

Jackson Cox, age 65, farmer.

Webster W. Casto, age 51, farmer.

Harrison Denny, age 60, farmer.

L.L. Denny, age 50.

Marion McQuilkin, age 43,

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farmer.

W.W. Watkins, age 54, farmer.

James Hook, born Pennsylvania, age 70, in Vigo County 48 years, contractor.

O.J. Innis, born Pennsylvania, age 58, came to Parke County, 1843.

Thomas Hannom, born Pennsylvania, age 67, here 47 years.

John L. Humaston, born New York, here 41 years, age 65.

H.D. Milns, born England, age 70, farmer here 52 years.

George D. Boord, born Kentucky, age 82, here 63 years.

H.K. Wise, born Pennsylvania, age 83, to Vincennes 1824, here 60 years.

Isaac Beauchamp, born Kentucky, age 80, here 47 years.

Henry Boyll, born Kentucky, farmer, age 60, here 57 years ago.

Abram Baum, born Kentucky, age 71, here 53 years ago.

Philip Staub, born Germany, age 87, been in America

59 years.

John Jackson, born Illinois, age 65, here 64 years ago.

Stephen Hedges, born Kentucky, age 64, here 34 years.

Edward S. Hussey, born Baltimore, age 71, been here 55 years.

Samuel Dodson, farmer, age 67, been here 41 years.

This completed the newspaper listing following the 1875 Old Settlers' Association meeting.

W.B. Warren, a native of New York, came to Terre Haute in 1820. In 1850 he began packing pork and at the same time was interested in the dry goods business. Later he was made president of the gas company. Although he had only elementary schooling, he was recognized as one of the wealthy pioneer citizens.

L.A. Burnett, dealer in shoe findings, was one of the old settlers in Vigo County. He was born in 1818. He came with his family from New York in a canoe up the Maumee River and down the Wabash, arriving in Terre Haute on June 20, 1821. In 1854, he was elected sheriff, and in 1868 was appointed postmaster of Terre Haute.

Amory Kinney was born in Vermont in 1791. He came to Terre Haute in 1826, and in 1830 represented Vigo County in the Indiana Legislature. He helped revise the Indiana statutes in 1831, and later became head of the law firm of Kinney, Wright & Gookins.

In 1885, when the Old Set-

tlers' Association conducted another meeting, **Lemuel Surrall** told how he was an old timer who "helped tread the weeds on the Wabash." Born in Queen Ann's County, Md., he moved to Terre Haute in 1837.

C.T. Noble told of his arrival here in 1823. He was a school teacher when young, and **C.W. Barbour** was one of his pupils. He told how two sisters of John F. Cruft came here in 1829 or 1830 and started the first Sunday school in Vigo County.

He reported **James Ross** and **Harry Ross** came here in 1825. Noble told how he and Samuel Hedges taught in this Sunday school. Hedges later moved to Quincy, Ill.

Noble took a census of Terre Haute in 1829 and found 83 families and 668 inhabitants. In 1835, a man named Chase bet Henry Rose \$10 that Terre Haute had 1,500 inhabitants. Noble took the census for them, and found 183 families and exactly 1,200 inhabitants.

Noble praised the method of teaching in his day, and very much preferred the church singing then than the machine-made music made by a \$3,000 organ.

In mentioning old families, he spoke of Tuttle, Markle, Mitchell, Jones, Brotherton, Jenckes, Brown, Turner, Bentley, Winters, Isacc C. Elston, Ethan Pollock, William C. Linton and the Ross brothers who established a brickyard in 1834 on ground owned (1885) by Mrs. Clippenger near the poor farm.

*Clark, Dorothy @ [redacted] 1992

Old Settlers biographies continued

When the first meeting of the Old Settlers' Association was conducted in 1875, 285 people answered the roll call. A year later when another reunion was staged, it was found that more than 85 people had died in the previous year.

The biographies in last week's column are continued today.

Joe Hicklin was born in Knox County near Vincennes. The hardest thing he had to contend with in his early days was the wooden mold board on the crude and imperfect plows of those times. He found fault with 1880s whiskey and compared it with the fine whiskey of bygone days. Hicklin described making homespun, and could recall when even buttons were made at home of flax thread.

J.W. Moore described an "adzing" in the old days. His uncle was a shoemaker, and he learned that trade himself. On the subject of whiskey, he reported there was none in the sections where he was brought up.

Charles Noble gave an account of the original survey of Vigo County, the effort to take Sugar Creek and Fayette townships away from Vigo County, and the formation of Clay County.

A listing of those who attended the first meeting included: **Edward Cruft** born in 1830, Terre Haute; **William W. Goodman** born in Louisville near Vincennes in 1814, moved to Vigo County in 1819, and was a farmer near Macksville (West Terre Haute).

Richard Watson, born 1826,

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Spencer County, Ky., came to Vigo County in 1828. His father, Scarlet Watson, with his family settled in Prairie Creek Township.

Thomas B. Carr, born 1816, Spencer County, Ky., came here in 1824 and became a merchant in Terre Haute.

John L. Dickerson was born in Butler County, Ohio, but he forgot just when. He came to Vigo County in 1839 and became a teacher.

Charles T. Noble Jr. was born in Terre Haute in 1842. He was a bookkeeper, and lived here always.

Samuel H. Jackson, born 1823 in Vigo County, was a farmer and resided 3½ miles southeast of Terre Haute.

Ebenezer C. Edmunds, born in 1863 in Vigo County, was the son of Samuel Edmunds, farmer, city commissioner, probate judge and justice of the peace and an early farmer.

Benjamin F. Swafford, M.D., was born in Randolph County, N.C., (he had forgotten the year also). He crossed the

Wabash River on Dec. 4, 1834, and lived many years in Fayette Township, one of Terre Haute's leading doctors with a residence at the corner of Sixth and Poplar streets.

Sanford S. Ripley was born in 1842, Lost Creek Township, Vigo County, and was a farmer.

Joseph Hearn, a farmer, was born in 1826, Sugar Creek Township.

George Grimes, from Loudon County, Va., came to Clay County in the fall of 1841, before becoming a resident of Terre Haute and an insurance agent.

William Beale, born in Jackson County, Tenn., came to Indiana in 1830, and became a real estate agent in Terre Haute.

Samuel Jones, born 1842 in Vigo County, was the son of Jesse Jones, an old-timer.

William R. McKean, born 1829, Prairie Creek Township, Vigo County, became prominent in public and private enterprises. In 1875, he was president of the Vandalia Railroad.

William T. Pittinger, born 1818, Ross County, Pa., was reared in Frederick County, Va., and came here in 1841. He became an auctioneer and resided in Terre Haute.

William F. Schaal was born in 1842 in Terre Haute on Main Street, where Tiernan's millinery store stood in 1875. His father, G. F. Schaal, came here in 1836, married the former Mrs. Woods, and still was living at the time of the reunion. She was born in 1810 in Madison County, Ky., and was enjoying life with

two sons, William and Albert, their wives and children.

G.F. Schaal had accumulated considerable property, residing in town on 80 acres near the Vigo County Fairgrounds. His son, G.H. Schaal, was named for George Habermeyer and Albert Lange, and was active in Democratic Party politics.

Albert M. Buckingham was born in 1821 at the southeast corner of Fifth and Eagle streets. He was the son of Henry Buckingham who moved to Terre Haute from Wheeling, Va. Henry was a cabinetmaker and furniture dealer; Albert was a local policeman.

Isaac Ball, born in Elizabethtown in 1826, came here in 1842. He became Terre Haute's first undertaker and casket maker.

Harriet (Cochran) Hebb, widow of Richard Hebb (who came here in 1835 from Maryland) was born in Fayette Co., Pa., in 1822. She came here in 1838, married Hebb in 1841, and still was living in town at the time of the reunion. **Mrs. Derexa (Whitcomb) Barbour** was born in 1820 in Treble County, Ohio. She came to Clinton in 1827, married the Honorable C.W. Barbour in 1840. They resided in sight of Terre Haute across the Wabash River in Fayette Township.

William Paddock was born in Clark County, Ohio, in 1818. He came to Vigo County and settled in Prairie Creek Township. Formerly auditor of Vigo County, he was engaged in milling in 1875.

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Community Affairs File

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Biographies reveal life in 1800s

SEP 20 1992
Brief biographies are a good way to learn about early residents of Terre Haute and surrounding communities. In an old clipping scrapbook presented to me a few years ago, I found several biographies to share with readers.

George F. Hampton was born in 1821, in Fauquier County, Va. He came to Vigo County in 1855 and settled in Linton Township where he farmed his land for many years. He later engaged in the transportation business in Terre Haute.

John Muier was born in Ayreshire, Scotland, in 1812 and came to Indiana in 1841 where he settled in Parke County in 1858.

Harry H. Copeland was born in 1822 in Winchester County, Va. He came to Terre Haute in 1844, and lived here all his life. He was a tailor.

Jabez B. Hidden, one of the most extensive builders in Terre Haute, was born in Newark, N.J., in 1817. He came to town in the fall of 1840.

Mary Donham, wife of Darius Donham, was born in Eugene, Ind., in 1830. She came to Vigo County in 1835. She married Donham at the age of 17 years. She went to school in the basement of the Congregational Church when S.B. Gookins was a teacher, along with John Hunly and Blackford Condit.

Sarah E. (Winter) Lockridge was the daughter of Stacy Winter who brought his family here in 1837. She was born in 1828. She was the widow of Robert L. Lockridge, a former Terre Haute merchant, who died in

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1854.

Harvey Carpenter was born in 1810 in Otsego County, N.Y. He came to Indiana in 1840 and settled in Terre Haute.

Jacob W. Ogle, M.D., was born in 1823 in Butler County, Ohio. He arrived in Terre Haute in 1839, and settled in Prairie-ton Township at Prairie-ton.

William D. Jones, born in Butler County, Ohio, in 1821, came to Indiana in 1828, and settled in Tippecanoe County before coming to Vigo County in 1844. He was a farmer.

Newton Rogers was born in Otter Creek Township, Vigo County, in 1834. He later moved to Terre Haute.

Mrs. Stephen Gartrell was the daughter of William Naylor, who laid off Sibleytown. The community, centered around Third and Locust streets, was on the record as Naylor's Survey. An old resident loved and honored by all who knew him, Naylor was born in 1828 in Saley, Washington County, Ind. He came to Terre Haute in 1844.

Her husband, **Stephen Gartrell**, was one of the Gartrell

family who came here very early and settled in Otter Creek Township. He was greatly loved and respected by all.

James L. Davis was born in Gilford County, N.C., in 1826, and came to Indiana in 1830 where he settled in Putnam County before moving to Terre Haute in 1839. He was a solicitor here.

Mrs. L.C. Manning was born in Terre Haute in 1841. She was the daughter of William and Hannah Pepper, who attended the Old Settlers' Association meeting in 1875.

Cardinal Wolsey Barbour was born in 1808 in Jefferson County, N.Y. When he was 9 years old, his father, Daniel B. Barbour, and his family, along with Dr. John Durkee and family, started down the Alleghany River around Pittsburgh where they bought boats and floated down the Ohio to land in Indiana.

Barbour and Durkee went west to explore the country, arrived at Vincennes and heard about Fort Harrison. They came here and selected land in Fayette Township. Barbour took up two-and-a-quarter sections while Durkee acquired four-and-a-quarter sections. Barbour became one of the leading attorneys at the bar in Terre Haute and lived across the river on his farm.

Charles St. John was born in 1828 in Ulster County, N.Y. He came to Vigo County in the spring of 1851, and married Sarah Ogle that year, the daughter of Jacob Ogle, a farmer in Prairie-ton.

Joseph H. Blake was born in

1834 in Baltimore, Md., and was brought here by stage coach with his parents and Jacob Hager in 1835. His father, Richard Blake, came here from Calbert County, Mo., in 1832 and engaged in the practice of medicine with E.V. Ball. Afterward he went in business with his brother-in-law, Charles Groverman.

For a long time their firm carried on the largest business on the Wabash River. Blake and Groverman sold north to Lafayette and west to Shelbyville, Ill.

At that time, large steamboats brought goods from New Orleans and landed cargoes safely at Terre Haute's wharves. The river traffic expired, along with Blake, Groverman and Ball.

Mrs. Frances J. Blake, J.H. Blake's mother, was 73 years old at the time of the 1875 Old Settler's reunion. She was living on the Blake farm, east of the city, an invalid surrounded by many children and grandchildren. Her husband died before young Blake was of age.

He then was a clerk in the office of the Toll Collector for the Wabash & Erie Canal, appointed by the board of trustees in 1855.

The next year he was elected city clerk and was re-elected until 1860 when he was elected county clerk. In 1868 he was elected county commissioner and built several bridges. He married a daughter of Curtis Gilbert, the first Vigo County clerk, and lived on his farm west of the present Highland Lawn Cemetery.

Brief biographies will continue in next week's column.

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Book chronicles history in caricature

One of the many books chronicling local history is "Some Terre Haute Phizes" published in Terre Haute in 1905. The caricatures were drawn by B.J. Griswold. George G. Holloway was the photographer, and Edward M. Lucas wrote the brief biographical sketches.

It was a limited edition, and over four generations have come on the local scene in the 88 years since publication. Space permits quotes from the sketches of the doctors, all 13 of them, included in the book.

Dr. Edwin B. McAllister was born in Bowling Green in Clay County in 1868. He came to Terre Haute in 1887 and entered school, taking the full course in high school and graduating in the class of 1889.

He worked for a time in a commission house, saving his money for tuition at Rush Medical College in Chicago. He waited tables at Rush to pay his way and graduated in 1894. He began the practice of medicine in Chicago, but came back to Terre Haute to recover from appendicitis, and decided to stay on here as a member of the physicians' staff at St. Anthony's hospital for eight years.

Dr. William E. Nichols was the coroner in 1905. Born in Neosha, Mo., in 1871, he came to Terre Haute the next year. An 1889 graduate of the high school, he also entered Rush Medical College.

After graduation in 1894, he practiced at Edgar Station, Ill., for five years, then moved to Ellsworth (formerly North Terre Haute) where he remained until 1902 when he moved to Terre Haute. He ran for the office of

Historically speaking



Clark retired as the Tribune-Star's women's editor in 1980. She has written a local history column since 1956. She is Vigo County historian.

By Dorothy J. Clark
Special to the Tribune-Star

coroner in 1904, that memorable year for Republicans.

The word "coroner" probably comes from the French, "courre," meaning to run, and if you want to be coroner it is necessary to run for office, and after you have it, it is required that you be prepared to run answering all calls for your services.

Dr. William E. Bell was born on a farm near Rosedale in Parke County in 1866. At age 14 he came to Terre Haute, spent a year in business college, and became a bookkeeper and prescription clerk in the establishment of Cook & Bell.

After two years he entered high school, learned shorthand, and worked for Terre Haute Car Manufacturing Co. in Indianapolis. Bell next entered the medical department of Cincinnati University, and following graduation began his practice in Terre Haute. He was one of the six physicians who organized the Terre Haute Sanitarium which later became Union Hospital.

Dr. Wilbur O. Jenkins was the first physician in Terre Haute to introduce the closed

cab in making his rounds of patients. He began his practice in Terre Haute after graduation from the Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati.

Long a member of the staff at St. Anthony's, he also was surgeon of the Southern Indiana Railroad.

Dr. Frank A. Tabor, born in Terre Haute, spent two years at Normal School and taught three years before becoming a doctor. He graduated from Indiana Medical College in 1898. He won election for coroner in 1902.

Dr. Thomas W. Moorhead, a native of Vigo County, was as well known as a toastmaster as for being a fine doctor and surgeon. He also was surgeon for the Big Four Railroad.

Dr. Ernest H. Layman was born in Missouri, came to Indiana at the age of 3, and later attended Franklin College and Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, graduating in 1899. He became a member of the Board of Health in 1904 under the administration of Mayor Bidaman.

Dr. Myron A. Boor was born at Staunton in Clay County in 1872. After completing high school, he studied medicine at Indiana University and the Polyclinic of New York City.

Dr. Edgar L. Larkins was born in Honey Creek Township, and did not leave the farm until he was 20 years old. He attended Terre Haute High School and taught school for two terms. After one year with Dr. Link, he entered Indiana Medical College, graduating in 1878. After another year with Link, he located at Staunton for five years, before relocating in Terre Haute.

Dr. Malachi R. Combs was born in Ohio, but moved to Indiana at an early age. He graduated from Indiana Medical in 1885, and began his practice at Kentland. Because of poor health, he went to sunny Texas, where he built up a nice practice at Dallas. Following a visit to the World's Fair at Chicago, he visited Terre Haute and decided to make Terre Haute his home.

Dr. Frederick W. Shaley was born in Terre Haute in 1858 and lived here all his life. He studied at Heidelberg University and Rush Medical College, graduating in 1884. He served on the staff at St. Anthony's Hospital.

Dr. Walker Schell was born in Spencer. He attended Indiana Medical College and spent several years studying in Germany. He began practicing in Terre Haute in 1890, was a member of the staff at St. Anthony's, and was one of the first "autoists" (he drove an automobile) of Terre Haute, and one of the first doctors to use the machine in his rounds of professional calls.

Dr. Rudolph Yung, the son of Charles Yung, well known in town because of his many years in the hotel business, graduated from Terre Haute High School. He graduated from College of Physicians & Surgeons of Chicago in 1900. He began his practice here in 1902, following two years in Chicago making a special study of chest disorders.

There are a total of 299 biographical sketches and caricatures of prominent Terre Haute men in all professions in this interesting book of "Phizes." Check it out at the Vigo County Public Library.

Valley heritage

Lawyer enjoys visit to bustling city

18
Last week's column told of John Parsons' visit to Terre Haute in 1840 and the young Virginia lawyer's reactions to our fair city of 2,000 people.

More than 200 boats were carrying on a regular traffic between Wabash River towns and ports on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. However, the flatboats were the most astonishing sight to Parsons.

He was amazed that the value of the produce and stock on flatboats was \$1 million annually. In less than a month and a half in the fall, 1,000 flatboats passed down river, the majority of them loaded with flour, pork, etc.

These cargoes figured out to one-10th pork, 300 barrels to the boat; one-10th lard, cattle, horses, oats, cornmeal, etc.; and the remainder of the load consisted of corn on the ear. As proof that this was not always the load, he told of one flatboat carrying a load of hickory nuts, walnuts and venison hams.

Through Griswold & Usher, young Parsons met judges Demas Deming, Elisha Huntington, Jenckes and Gookins. He also met another young attorney, Barbout, graduate of Indiana College at Bloomington, who had read law in the office of Judge Isaac Blackford at Indi-



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anapolis.

It was Curtis Gilbert who told Parsons of the visit here in 1831 of Henry Clay. He was entertained at the Eagle & Lion, the first tavern in the village, with its quaint sign of the American Eagle pecking out the eyes of the British Lion.

In the early days it was frequented by chance travelers and traveling lawyers, the central meeting place for the townspeople.

Gilbert told about Sen. Clay being met several miles from the village by a large number of citizens and escorted into town, with the roar of artillery. Speeches were made by prominent citizens, and Clay's eloquent reply was still quoted by his admirers.

In addition to the pork-packing industry here, Parsons found stores of general merchandise, a

most excellent market, wagon-yard, a brickyard, shoe-making, coopering, hat-making, and several mills. There were several private schools here and several churches.

Parsons could not know that in October 1840, St. Mary-of-the-Woods College was to be founded, nor could he foresee Rose Polytechnic and the State Normal School (now Indiana State University) were soon to flourish here.

One morning, Parsons met Chauncey Rose at the Prairie House. He described him as "serious-faced, the kindly gentleman. I found him pleasing at our first meeting, for though a man of reticent nature, he is, in reality, full of enthusiasm over his various enterprises."

Chauncey Rose told Parsons of his coming here when he was 25 years old (he was 47 in 1840) and seeing the potential value of prairie land, purchased 640 acres in one tract in 1830.

Rose told him of his most recent business venture, the mining of iron ore in Greene County, with a blast furnace for making pig-iron about a mile from Bloomfield. It was called the Richland furnace. From here the iron was hauled by horse teams to Louisville, a distance of 100 miles, at a cost of five dol-

lars a ton. Later a steamboat would occasionally come up White River and take off the iron.

The original members of the this enterprise were Mr. Downing, M.H. Shryer, William Eveleigh, William Mason, E.J. Peck and A.L. Voorhees.

Since John Parson's cousin, Dr. Parsons, was young and unmarried, it was natural that he should meet the young ladies of the town. He told of a sunset walk to the Old Indian Orchard.

According to Parsons, "This spot is so called, I was informed, from an old Indian legend, and 'tis indeed a place of surpassing beauty. Three couples walked out together, Mr. Usher, Dr. Parsons and myself, in the company of the young females."

Indian Orchard was used as a burying ground for many years until the opening of the City Cemetery, later called Woodlawn Cemetery in 1839. A wooden marker located in the parking lot at Pillsbury is now the only reminder of this old graveyard and Revolutionary War veteran, Jonathan Kniffin.

John Parsons embarked for Vincennes, his next stopping place, on the steamer Indian late in July 1840, after a week in the bustling, growing city of Terre Haute.

Valley heritage

Diaries were road maps to future

OCT 10 1993

There were as many tales to tell about the journeys to the Old Northwest Territory as there were families who made the trek. Diaries became road maps when sent back to family members who might make the trip later.

John Watson Jr., a Quaker, titled his journal, "An Account of a Journey from Buckingham, Bucks County, Pa., to the State of Ohio commenced the 29th of the fourth month 1811, including maps and mileage."

Watson wrote:

"4 month 29th . . . Started in company with Hezekiah B. Ingham to the State of Ohio, rode on to Byberry, called at Joseph Comly's, and concluded to stay all night.

"Called at Nathan Harper's for a Letter, and then stop'd at Eli Medings for Breakfast, arrived in Philadelphia about 8 o'clock, purchased several Articles for myself and a few to send home, and spent the remainder of the day, with my acquaintance; in the evening was impor-

Historically speaking



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tuned to go to the Theatre, but preferred (preferred?) spending a social Evening with James Vaux and Wife where I staid all night.

"5 month 1st . . . Walked to David Swaim's for Breakfast, on my way back called at Samuel Shinn's, took leave of my Friends and left Philadelphia about 11 o'clock but had to wait until 3 at D. Swain's for Hezekiah and arrived at Randal Milon's about 8 in the evening, distance 21 miles.

"Started at 8 o'clock, called at the Office of Charles Mowry (printer) formerly of Doylestown, thence to Moses Mendinhall's, his wife being unwell we stop'd at John Hoops' and as it Rained hard staid until 3 p.m., and then rode on to Joseph Cottrel's and put up for night.

"Staid with Cottrel till 9 o'clock — we went to school together when boys, and have not seen each other since. Zachariah Mussina, Merchant at St. Louis in Lousiana, and Peter Augustus

Spreigman from Cincinnati called for Breakfast on their way from Phila. to Cincinnati by way of Pittsburgh, and we concluding to bear them company, left Cottrels in the Rain and arrived at Lancaster one-quarter before 4 and put up at Weaver's Tavern.

"5 month 10th . . . On our way back to the Tavern (at Pittsburgh), disheartened with the prospect of having to perform the rest of the Journey by land, along a very hilly and bad road, rendered now difficult by the high water from the rains, we perceived a large flat boat Landing opposite Wood Street . . . which in a very short time began to discharge her loading of Wheat.

"We applied and found she was for sale...went immediately to the Steam Mill where we found the owner and agreed with him for his Boat for \$90.

"A person from New London in Connecticut of the name of Hempstead being on his Journey with his wife and family to St. Louis . . . bargained with Mussina for accomodations in the boat.

"All hands went to work and by night we had room petitioned off in the Stern for the New Englanders . . . a Stable in the Bow for four horses with double Floor, Manger and a Fireplace and Chimney of Bricks and the two lower seams tightly caulked.

"5 month 11th . . . Although it threatened rain we began early to load the boat. I was employed in marking off the Goods as they

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Valley heritage

Lawyer wrote about 1840s visit

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(22)

In 1840, when the little town of Terre Haute was only 24 years old, a young lawyer, John Parsons, from Petersburg, Va., visited here on his tour of "The Wabash Country."

Intelligent and a keen observer, he carried letters of introduction from Eastern friends, which gained him entry into what were known as "the most respectable families" of the various Indiana towns he visited.

The time of his journey was of unusual interest, the year of the William Henry Harrison campaign, the beginning of our modern presidential campaigns.

Transportation available to this traveler included stagecoach, canal boat, steamboat, horseback, and an occasional day's journey on the latest novelty, the railroad.

Traveling in a stagecoach on the National Road across Clay County and into Vigo County, Parsons met Mr. Chapman, editor of the Wabash Enquirer published at Terre Haute. As they rumbled along the bumpy road, Chapman filled him in on the beginnings of Terre Haute and its 2,000 inhabitants.

The road was in good condition, and they crossed excellent bridges with stone abutments across small streams, and a notable long one known as "the yellow bridge" just before coming into town.

After a brief visit to a camp-meeting church revival in the woods, Parsons arrived at the Prairie House, built at the eastern edge of town by Chauncey Rose and kept by Mr. Barnum.

Parson described his apartment at the Prairie House (now the site of the Terre Haute



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House) as commodious and comfortable, and "my meals all and more than I could have demanded." He found it to be the largest and best appointed inn in the state, if not in the West.

The next morning, dressed in fresh broadcloth, ruffled shirt, and his best beaver tall hat, Parsons set forth to find Dr. Layman's friend who introduced him to the town's most prominent physicians.

Those he mentioned included pioneer Dr. Modesitt, "a typically Virginia gentleman, unchanged by his residence in a pioneer settlement. He can truly be called a pioneer, for he built the first log house in Terre Haute, and proved himself a man of affairs, setting up a mortar for corn, when there was no mill, and established a ferry across the Wabash, at the same time laying the foundation for his reputation as a most excellent physician and surgeon.

"He is a graduate of Prince William College, and resided in Cincinnati for a season before coming to this place. He is a handsome gentleman, somewhat past 50, with snow white hair, an erect figure, an imposing presence and most courtly man-

ners."

Parsons wrote in his journal about "most congenial Dr. Reed, a young gentleman of 29. In his office on the public square, he has collected a library of considerable size and merit."

He was also introduced to Dr. Ball, from New Jersey; Dr. Patrick; Dr. Richard Blake, a Southerner from Maryland; Dr. Daniels; and Dr. Thomas Parsons, a distant cousin from Virginia who had come to Indiana in 1819, a young boy with his family. In 1840 he was about 36 years old, and as yet unmarried.

Parsons began his second day in town by reading the newspaper. He noted the market price of various commodities: flour \$3.75 a barrel; meal, 12 to 15 cents a bushel; wheat, 50 cents a bushel; potatoes, 10 to 12 cents a bushel; butter, 5 to 6 cents a pound; eggs, 3 to 6 cents a dozen; whiskey, 14 cents a gallon.

Because of the coming election, the greater part of the newspaper was devoted to political items. Quoting items copied from the Indianapolis paper, Parsons told of the origin of the adoption of the rooster as a symbol of the Democratic Party.

The Whig paper told the story of how some leader had written to Chapman telling him he must put on a bold front and seem to be positive the Democrats would win. "Tell Chapman he must crow," he said, and that this story got out, to the discomfort of the Democrats and the enormous delight of the Whigs, and that every Whig paper had in black letters, "Crow, Chapman, crow."

The Whig citizens of Vigo County planned a barbecue for

George H. Proffit, representative in Congress. Staged in a grove south of town on Oct. 3, 1840, the affair was a success. The committee included: Thomas H. Blake, James Farrington, T.A. Madison, A.L. Chamberlain, John Dowling, Rufus Minor, Henry Ross, Charles T. Noble and Lucius Scott.

Parsons met Attorney Griswold of the law firm of Usher & Griswold in their office on Cherry Street. John P. Usher later became a member of Lincoln's cabinet.

Parsons wrote in his journal about standing on the sidewalk and witnessing a "surging mass of porkers go by, a sight well worth the seeing. First went a man on horseback, scattering corn and uttering at intervals in a minor key the cry: 'Pig-oo-ee! Pig-oo-ee!'"

All along the sidewalk, at street crossings and at alley ways, helpers were stationed to keep in line the pigs that were driven forward from the rear by drovers with long sticks.

"The rear was brought up by the very fat porkers who had to have special attendants, and a wagon followed for those who became too tired to walk. 'Twas an interesting sight, and we stood until they had entirely passed."

The river traffic here seemed to fascinate Parsons. He told how, "in 1836, as many as 800 steamboats came here from New Orleans, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, being daily visitors during the boating season."

[Next week's column will continue the account of Lawyer Parsons's visit here. . .]

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